



Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura • 5654 Ralston Street • Ventura, CA • 805/644-3898

## Sunday Services

Beginning at 9:45 we will feature a sing-along and occasionally a feature video related to our religious movement or theme.

February 5

Music: 9:45am  
Service: 10AM

### Reflections on Love

*Kristen Rohm, Intern Minister*

Our theme for the month of February is Love. Come and let's open the conversation about this important theme.

I'm not yet sure where we'll end up, but let's begin together!



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February 12

Music: 9:45am  
Service: 10AM

### The Lost Meanings of Love

*Rev. David Pyle*

In Greek and Roman, and the Romance languages we are given many different words that are translated into English as "Love."

Each of these different words has a subtlety of meaning that we often do not see when we lump them all together.

Is it any wonder then that our society has such a hard time finding the boundaries among the many different feelings of love?

### It's a Party -

### Celebration of Generosity!!!

*Sunday, February 12 following service*

*In Berg Hall to Celebrate our generosity*

Your Year Round Pledging Team invites everyone - visitors, friends and members to join us in this celebration of our generosity and the First Year Birthday of our Year Round pledging system.

It has been a very successful first year thanks to all of you trying something new and continuing to be generous in your support of our beloved community.

February 19

Music: 9:45am  
Service: 10AM

### Love is Always Tough

*Rev. David Pyle*

It is hard to care for human beings. Even with the best of intentions, we often hurt one another, or tread on each other's sacred ground. It would be far easier to choose not to care, and indeed many people make this choice in the aftermath of the wounds of love. How do we love when it is tough? Well, it's always tough...

February 26

Music: 9:45am  
Service: 10AM

### Prophetic Love

*Rev. David Pyle*

When I look at the lives of the Hebrew Prophets, there are those who are part of the communities they speak to, and those that are on the edges of a community looking in. For those who speak truth within a community, how effective they are is almost always connected to how much they love the people they serve. What can we learn from the Hebrew Prophets as we are called to "Stand on the Side of Love"?



## MINISTER'S COLUMN

### *Love*

There is no human emotion more explored, more dissected, and more obsessed over than love. The variations in our feelings of love are as many as all the minutes of the day, for all the days of the year, for each and every one of us. Love is unique in each and every moment. More poems have been written, more songs have been sung, and more paintings have been painted to love than all the other emotions. Religions have risen and fallen in the shadow of love. Philosophers have opined, and playwrights have dramatized...

And yet, in each moment of the days we live, it is like we do not understand love at all.

This month, we will focus on that whole family of feelings that we call love. We will focus on the social constructs that we call love. We will focus on the image of the divine that we call love. Love is an ideal, a lived reality, and an unreal dream... all at the same time. Love can heal and love can wound. It is the glue of relationships and community, and love can tear relationships and communities asunder.

We will look at the different meanings of love in our society, and see how perhaps we have combined many feelings under the label love that other cultures knew to separate. We will look at love within and beyond communities and families. We will even explore how love is what calls us to work for justice in the world.

But, all of these are words. Love is not a topic to be dissected, but a reality to be experienced. So, as we go forth into this coming month of a spiritual focus on love, the greatest education we can give to one another is to hold one another, with intention and grace, in a spirit of love.

Love is the only truly renewable resource... the more of it you give away, the more of it you will have.

*Yours in faith,  
Rev. David*

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### **Rev. David and Military Chaplaincy**

In January there were two major developments in Rev. David's service as a military chaplain.

First he was assigned (finally) to a Southern California unit and is now an Army Reserve Hospital Chaplain with the 349<sup>th</sup> Combat Surgical Hospital in Bell California. For those of you who are fans of the show "MASH," just think "Father Mulcahy."

Secondly, at the end of January, Rev. David joined all the other UU Military Chaplains and some key UUA staff members for a retreat in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. The retreat focused on growing the UU military chaplain corps, and addressed some of the tensions between our religious tradition and the military.

### **Health News of the Month**

*by Jill Forman*

*Now the Health Ministry has been introduced to the congregation, there will be a health-related item monthly in the newsletter. Hope you find them helpful.*



### **Looking for Health Information You Can Trust?**

Check out Medline Plus; a service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus>.

Read the latest medical research reports or find clinical trials for specific diseases.

Look up medication facts, and read about illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease or cancer in the medical encyclopedia or medical dictionary.

Watch an interactive health tutorial or connect to other reliable health-related websites.

This service provides information without trying to sell you anything. The material is current and meets government quality standards. Medline Plus ensures that the information is organized and easy to use.

So, when you want to be up to date on the latest health topic, or learn more about the medication the doctor prescribed for you, go to <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus> for information you can trust.

*(Article courtesy of Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurses/Hospice)*

## Newsletter Submittals

We value your contributions and very much appreciate email submittals. When sending email contributions to *On Common Ground*, address them to:

[newsletter@uuventura.org](mailto:newsletter@uuventura.org)



### Next Newsletter Deadline

**February 19 at Noon**

Next issue covers March 2012

## Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to all of you who donated to the staff gift fund this year. The staff thanks you for your generosity and for the ways large and small that you show your appreciation throughout the year. We are very grateful to serve such a warm and loving community. Thank you very much.

Becky Burnham, UUCV Office Administrator

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<http://www.uuventura.org>

Senior Minister Jan Christian is on Sabbatical

Assistant Minister/Sabbatical Minister

Rev David Pyle

Office hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs by appointment

805/644-3898, ext 102 or 805/917-0072

Email: [asstminister@uuventura.org](mailto:asstminister@uuventura.org)

Office Manager - Becky Burnham

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: 9am - 3pm

Thurs: 9am - 2:30pm

Call first to ensure Becky is onsite.

Church Office

Phone: 805/644-3898 • FAX: 805/644-3926

Email: [office@uuventura.org](mailto:office@uuventura.org)

Editors:

Shelah Wilgus ..... 805/658-7245

[preblest@pacbell.net](mailto:preblest@pacbell.net)

Tessa Weeks ..... 805/647-4247

[tessaweeks@mac.com](mailto:tessaweeks@mac.com)



Yes, I Can!

I am only one, but still I am one.

I cannot do everything, but still I can do something.

And because I cannot do everything,

I will not refuse to do the something that I can.

*Edward Everett Hale*

When I came to UUCV seeking a spiritual home, I was acquainted with only two members of the congregation. On my first visit, they were already seated and didn't know I had entered the sanctuary, but I was warmly welcomed by another member. When I was introduced, my friends turned and greeted me with smiles that told me they were glad I had come. The uneasiness of being among strangers began to subside.

I heeded the invitation to share coffee and bagels, and found that almost everyone had moved into Berg Hall. The room was alive with children and adults, and it buzzed with a high level of energy. An impressive number of hugs and smiles caught my attention. I was impressed. I also was a stranger. Circling the room slowly, my smile began to be forced and to feel silly. About now you're wondering, "Why didn't she just stop and begin a conversation with someone?" You are right to ask. The answer is that I lack the social graces and confidence to comfortably approach strangers. On that first day, one loop around the room, and I headed for the door.

But here I am, so something changed. The reason I share my experience of that day is not to sit in judgment. It happened. It still happens, but the feeling of being a stranger can be short-circuited... Let me tell you about moving from being an awkward newcomer to the privilege of writing this column. It is my story of transition from stranger to participant in our spiritual community. The key word and the enabling difference is 'service.'

UUCV has become my 'forever' spiritual home. Sunday morning worship services are the peak experiences of my weeks, and my closest friends are here. Those words could not be written had I not shared in the life of the church by sharing in the work of the church. Volunteering initially for work that almost no one was eager to do was a good decision. Other work followed, and none of it has been onerous. Instead, it has been richly rewarding. Service to the church (an hour, a month, a year) is a responsibility that need not be a burden. Seen as a meaningful part of one's spiritual practice, it becomes a privilege. I believe these words of Albert Schweitzer to be true.

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know.

The only ones among you who will be truly happy will be those who sought and found how to serve."

And there is a remarkable bonus! Fun and fellowship go hand-in-hand for those who go about the work of the church in the company of other UUs.

Really!

*Marcy Burns,*

*President, Board of Trustees*

# Social Action

*“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” Mahatma Gandhi*

## Inreach/Outreach Committee News

“It’s not just about being able to write a check.

It’s being able to touch somebody’s life.

*Oprah Winfrey*

This is an exciting month for inreach/outreach. On February 5, we’ll take up a collection to send children to make a Father’s Day visit to their dads who are in prison. Then, at 11AM, we’ll have our poster voting session to decide who will receive our offerings in April, May, and June. Packets describing the programs that have applied for funding will be sent out by email and available for pick up at church by January 28.

If you can’t be at church on February 5, you may vote by proxy or by email ballot. Call Sue Brinkmeyer at 818/281-6249 if you have questions.

Our February offerings continue on the 12th as we help the Turning Point Foundation fund a case manager to guide the residents of River Haven toward permanent housing in the community.

On February 19, we’ll have the opportunity to put musical instruments and music lessons into the hands of children living at the Salvation Army’s Transitional Living facilities.

Finally, our February 26 offering will go to the children’s program and family counseling at the RAIN transitional living center. It warms my heart to know how much good we can do in the world by sharing of our bounty each Sunday.

## Reminder!

On Sunday, February 5, 2012, we will vote in Berg Hall to determine who will get our offerings during the months of April, May, and June. Be there to vote for your favorite cause. Sue Brinkmeyer [sue-brinkmeyer@earthlink.net](mailto:sue-brinkmeyer@earthlink.net), 818/281-6249

## Compassionate Consumption Pledge

Each time you purchase a product or patronize a service, you have a choice—and that choice makes a statement. Together with UUSC, you can act on a deep commitment to workers’ rights, ethical eating, and building a just economy by choosing to spend wisely, in alignment with your values. Consider signing UUSC’s Choose Compassionate Consumption pledge [http://www.uusc.org/blog/entry/2822/1000\\_supporters\\_take\\_the\\_choose\\_compassionate\\_consumption\\_pledge](http://www.uusc.org/blog/entry/2822/1000_supporters_take_the_choose_compassionate_consumption_pledge)

## Awakening The Dreamer, a Two-day Symposium

**Sat, March 10, 9AM - 4PM, Sanctuary**

**Sun, March 11, 1 - 5PM, Sanctuary**

**Discover Your Power to Create a Thriving, Just, and Sustainable World.**

**Sponsored jointly by SACC, Adult Programs, and the Green Committee**

Everyone working for or wanting a better world should attend. We want 200 people to take part in March, and then we’ll repeat the experience in June, when we want another 200, and so on until we reach a critical mass and together move forward to bring forth an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just human presence on this planet. This is our goal, and it’s the goal of this symposium/workshop.

The Awakening the Dreamer symposium is the result of a decade of careful reflection and research to craft an experience that reaches deeply into the heart and mind of every participant. To date, over 100,000 individuals in 60 countries have already been affected by this dynamic multimedia experience.

Through informative videos by some of the most respected social and scientific experts of our time, and guided personal reflection exercises, the symposium experience reaches deeply into both the heart and mind. Participants emerge from these workshops with a grounded understanding of the world we have, an inspired vision for the world we want, and the tools and plans to move forward as change agents in the world.

Bring your family and friends and join us. The symposium/workshop is free; however, a \$15 donation is requested to cover the cost of lunch on Saturday and other refreshments over the two days. Child care will be made available if requested. Register at the SACC table or contact Sue Brinkmeyer at 818/281-6249 or [suebrinkmeyer@earthlink.net](mailto:suebrinkmeyer@earthlink.net).



# RE Program February 2012

## "Love"



	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
<b>Infant/Toddler</b>	Children begin in Service & Bridge to Playroom Aides: Monica, Jocabeth, Melissa	Children begin in Service & Bridge to Playroom Aides: Monica, Jocabeth, Melissa	Children begin in Service & Bridge to Playroom Aides: Monica, Jocabeth, Melissa	Children begin in Service & Bridge to Playroom Aides: Monica, Jocabeth, Melissa
<b>Pre-K</b>	Laurie and Rena <i>The Gift of Friends</i>	Rena and Joyce <i>The Gift of Families</i>	Intergenerational Service	Joyce and Laurie <i>The Gift of Ourselves</i>
<b>K-1</b>	Sue <i>The Gift of Friends</i>	Lisa <i>The Gift of Families</i>	Intergenerational Service	Sharon <i>The Gift of Ourselves</i>
<b>2-4</b>	Julie and Kent "Awesome Love"	Linda and Dorothy "Love in Our Congregation"	Intergenerational Service	Julie and Kent "Love and Gratitude"
<b>5-8</b>	Wendell "Touching All" from <i>Riddle and Mystery</i>	Jill "Thinking of God" from <i>Riddle and Mystery</i>	Intergenerational Service	Vel "Out of Nothing" from <i>Riddle and Mystery</i>
<b>9-12</b>	evan "Meant to Find Each Other"	Kristin "Not So Bad After All"	Intergenerational Service	Cheryl "Friendship"

## NEWS from Religious Education · Julia Tyler, dre

Hello UUCV Folks,

Religious Education continues to grow and to transform those involved in the program. As always, I extend a hearty thank you to all the volunteers who help make R.E. the enriching experience that it is.

I offer a special thank you to Vel Akseven for leading the 5-8th Grade Church Sleepover. We have a marvelous group of youth here at UUCV, and I am honored to be working on their behalf.

This February, Beverly Januszewski and I will be serving on staff for the Elementary/Family Camp at de Benneville Pines. I will be serving as a Chaplain, and I look forward to working with children both from our congregation and from neighboring congregations. If you are interested in this fabulous opportunity, please visit <http://uucamp.org/>. The camp runs February 18-20, and it is still not too late to register your children. Please feel encouraged to contact either Beverly or me for further details.

In March, the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Santa Monica will be hosting a "Unitarian Universalist Identity Renaissance Module." This training is open to all UUs, and promises to assist participants in identifying their own growth as UUs, to become aware of how the process of UU identity unfolds, and to identify ways to foster the process among youth and adults. The training runs from March 22-24. If you are interested in attending, please let me know.

Thanks again to everyone who has contributed to R.E. this winter.

Warmly, Julia, [dre@uuventura.org](mailto:dre@uuventura.org), 805/644-3898 (x103)



February Birthdays

Roy C, Gryphon S,  
Grace S, Jenna P,  
Katharine M, Abigail A

### Important Reminder:

Parents, after the service if your child(ren) are not picked up right away please look for them in the Pre-k playroom or outside at the play yard. The aides are available for childcare until noon unless there is a special activity.

# UU Things To Do • Adult Programs

As the new church year gears up with exciting new people and possibilities, Adult Programs is bursting with opportunities for connection, reflection and growth. Consider these upcoming classes to find something that speaks to you.

Stay tuned to the newsletter and Adult Programs Board for information regarding additional classes. For information on ongoing programs, pick up an Adult Education Brochure available at the AP Bulletin Board in Berg Hall.

For RE Families & Children

## Potluck Lunch & RE Playground Cleanup Sunday, February 5 11:30AM – 1 PM

Bring a dish to share and join the community. Questions, call Michael, 805/208-0344

## Jim Scott Concert

Feb 25 • 7PM • \$15 DONATION

Musician, composer Jim Scott has visited well over 300 UU churches and has two and a half songs in the UU Hymnbook. He's a long time member of the UU Seventh Principle Project and helped create the Green Sanctuary Handbook. His latest project, just out, is "The Earth and Spirit Songbook" an anthology of songs of ecology and peace.

All are welcome and nobody will be turned away for lack of money

## Your Body's Grace Cancelled

Your Body's Grace scheduled for Wed, Feb. 1 - March 7 led by Nutritionist, Mary Farkas, [eldermuse@eldermuse.net](mailto:eldermuse@eldermuse.net) has been cancelled. Mary has fractured her ankle, will need surgery and not be able to drive for 6-8 weeks. Get well wishes are welcome.

## Spiritual Parenting Workshop

Sundays Feb. 26, March 11, 18 & April 8  
• 11:30AM

One of the challenges of being a Unitarian Universalist parent is learning how to bring the values, lessons, and principles of our liberal faith to our home lives with our children. Kristen Rohm, our Intern Minister will be leading a Spiritual Parenting Workshop, beginning February 26 at 11:30AM. The class will run on March 11, March 18, and April 8. Childcare will be provided. Contact Kristen Rohm to RSVP for the course.

## Get The Facts About GMOs (Genetically Engineered Foods)

Study and Discussion followed by Supper/Social  
& optional Volunteer Training

Saturday, February 11

Workshop, 4-6pm • Supper/Social Break,\* 6-6:30pm • Signature Gathering Training for Volunteers, 6:30-7:30pm

\*Organic NON-GMO box suppers available for pre-purchase for \$15 before noon on February 9, or bring your own food. Box supper sale benefits the Committee for the Right to Know.

Are you comfortable being a guinea pig for genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in food? You already are! Even some products labeled "100% natural" are made from 100% genetically engineered (GE) ingredients! Learn why the American Academy of Environmental Medicine recommends all doctors prescribe a non-GE diet for their patients. More than 50 other countries require labeling of GE food. Why? Get the facts and learn about the grass roots ballot initiative to require labels on food containing GMOs in California.

For more information call 805-643-3640, [labelgmoventura@gmail.com](mailto:labelgmoventura@gmail.com), or visit [LabelGMOs.org](http://LabelGMOs.org). Contact Joann Landon, 805/320-2344 if you have questions.

## Fun Book Club • Feb 19

We meet the 3rd Sunday, at 11:30AM, on the couches in the sanctuary and use book club guides. All are welcome.

In February we read *1 Dead in Attic* by Chris Rose, March - *The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb* by Melanie Benjamin, April - *Traveling with Pomegranates* by Sue Monk Kidd and Ann Kidd Taylor, May - *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain.

If you enjoy reading and discussing books, join us. For info contact Dorothy Fast Horse 218-9478, [dfasthorse@aol.com](mailto:dfasthorse@aol.com)

## UUniques

Join us at the UUniques potluck February 23, at 6:30PM in Berg Hall.

It's an opportunity for sharing good food and conversation. We will also plan our next outing. For info contact Merle Oberg (642-6316) or [31mlober8@sbcglobal.net](mailto:31mlober8@sbcglobal.net)

UU Church, Men's Group

## "4th TUESDAY" Potluck Supper • Program • Discussion Tues. Feb. 28, 6:00 PM

UU Church, Berg Hall (Community Room)

Pot Luck supper followed by program and circle discussion. The "4th Tuesday" dinners are open to all men in the UU community for fellowship, camaraderie, and personal sharing. Discussion topic to be announced. Please bring food to share. For more info call Gary Zinik 650-3327, [gzinik@aol.com](mailto:gzinik@aol.com)

# UU Things To Do • Adult Programs

## Liberation From Our Gender Roles Through Dreams And Stories

Friday, Feb. 24 - 7 to 9:30PM  
and Saturday Feb. 25 - 9AM to 3PM.

First UU Church of San Diego • 4190 Front Street, San Diego

Friday night \$15, Saturday \$50

The UU Men's Fellowship of San Diego will sponsor a series of talks by Allan Chinen, author of *Beyond the Hero: Classic Stories of Men in Search of Soul*, *Ever After Fairy Tales* and *Once upon a Midlife*. There will be an introductory lecture on the topic Friday with continued discussions on Saturday that include small group sharing, chanting, and drumming. The session is open to all men and women who seek a deeper understanding of the stories that shape our lives, in hopes that the stories and myths will liberate our souls and fulfill our dreams.

For information see [www.firstuusandiego.org/mens-fellowship](http://www.firstuusandiego.org/mens-fellowship) or contact Michael Dorfi at [mdorfi@cox.net](mailto:mdorfi@cox.net) Dr. Chinen's website is [www.thestoryteller.net](http://www.thestoryteller.net)

### Looking Forward:

#### 2012 District Assembly and General Assembly

April 27 - 28, Los Angeles

by Jim Merrill

Most of us have heard of Pacific Southwest District Assemblies and Unitarian Universalist Association General Assemblies, but don't really know much about them.

This year, 2012, is the year to find out! PSWD District Assembly (DA) will be held in "freeway close" Los Angeles, April 27-28, at First Unitarian Universalist Church: Watch our district's website <http://www.pswduua.org> for news about this and other district activities.

I have been fortunate to attend several District and General Assemblies. They are remarkable opportunities to experience our religious community in a wider context. Think about coming to church on Sunday and being among people who share your principles and know your songs. Now, multiply the congregants by hundreds, then thousands. That's what it's like to be at DA and GA, respectively.

UUA General Assembly 2012 (GA) will also be within a long day's drive, in Phoenix, Arizona, June 20-24. This will be a special general assembly focused on the issue of justice, an issue highlighted by the assembly's location, home of Sheriff Joe Arpaio and the immigration law SB 1070. Our district's website also includes links to planning for General Assembly 2012: <http://www.pswduua.org/pages/ga-2012--phoenix.php>.



### February 3 • Nothing Else Matters, (Was am Ende zählt), 2007, Not Rated. German with English subtitles.

Two 15-year-old German girls, Carla and Lucie, meet and become close friends while negotiating the difficulties and pleasures of living on the streets. Carla's life plan is to study fashion design in Lyon, but as she is departing for France, she discovers she is pregnant. They agree that Carla will delay her move to Lyon, and subsequently Lucie will pretend the baby is hers, so Lucie and her brother can raise the child in Germany with subsidized housing and welfare benefits, while Carla realizes her dream in France. But does the plan proceed as expected?

### February 10 • The Help, 2011, PG-13.

In 1960s Mississippi, aspiring writer and newly-minted college graduate Eugenia crosses taboo racial lines by speaking with an older black woman about her life as a housekeeper, and their ensuing friendship upsets the fragile dynamic between the local haves and have-nots. When other long-silent black servants begin opening up to Eugenia, the disapproving conservative Southern town gets swept up in the turbulence of changing times, as the black community becomes increasingly bold. Includes much humor.

### February 17 • Midnight in Paris, 2011, PG-13.

Woody Allen's Romantic/dramatic/comedic art-film-with-a-message, is the story of a young American novelist (Owen Wilson). During midnight strolls through Paris, he travels through time to meet 20 of his artistic idols from the 1920s, including: Gertrude Stein (Kathy Bates), Ernest Hemingway, Cole Porter, Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, and Picasso. The extraordinary cast includes Rachel McAdams (The Notebook), Marion Cotillard (La Vie en Rose), Michael Sheen (The Special Relationship), and Adrien Brody (The Pianist). The goofy Wilson, cast against type as a wanna-be literary giant, is perfect for the central role. Like the wonderful Matchpoint, this thoughtful film bears scant resemblance to the signature Woody Allen style of the neurotic, sex-obsessed comedies.

### February 24 • Margin Call, 2011, R.

An all-star cast (Kevin Spacey, Jeremy Irons, Demi Moore, and Stanley Tucci) shines in this engrossing drama about a critical 24-hour period at a high-profile investment bank in the early days of the 2008 financial crisis, when a young financial analyst uncovers information that could destroy the firm. When he alerts upper management to the precarious position of their risky investments, an emergency meeting is held to decide whether to alert their clients or exploit them.

# Committee News

## Lay Leadership

Unitarian Universalism is a democratic, grassroots religion. The decisions of each Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregation and of our denomination are made by professional ministers and congregation members together.

Through volunteer committees and elected congregational Boards, lay leaders manage most aspects of Unitarian Universalist congregations. Lay people hire the ministers and staff, build and maintain the buildings, manage the congregation's finances, determine the congregation's position on difficult issues, and more. In some congregations, members also plan and lead the worship services and choose the religious education curricula. Each congregation decides for itself how to divide these responsibilities.

Lay leaders also determine the Unitarian Universalist denomination's priorities and positions on all important issues. Every year, each congregation sends delegates to an annual meeting to elect our highest leaders, vote on our faith's response to various social and political issues, and approve the work of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Together with the elected UUA President and Moderator, an elected Board of Trustees, most of whom are lay leaders, guides the work of the UUA throughout the year.

You can become a Unitarian Universalist lay leader very quickly. Lay leadership is open to people of all ages, genders, races, ethnicities, sexual identities, abilities, faith backgrounds, and levels of experience.

We are dedicated to giving our lay members the training they need to lead effectively. A variety of webinars, workshops, and consultations will be offered for Unitarian Universalist lay leaders throughout the year.

To learn more about contributing your talents, contact Nominating & Leadership Development chair Bryan Buck, [bryanabuck@hotmail.com](mailto:bryanabuck@hotmail.com) or other committee members: Michael Akseven, [makseven@yahoo.com](mailto:makseven@yahoo.com), Joyce Faber, [gjfaber@mac.com](mailto:gjfaber@mac.com), Kent Brinkmeyer, [kbrinkmeyer@earthlink.net](mailto:kbrinkmeyer@earthlink.net) and Anne Escobedo, [anne.escobedo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anne.escobedo@sbcglobal.net).

### 2011-2012 Committee Chairs/Coordinators

**\*Adult Programs** - Celia Ortenberg  
**Archives Historian** - Bobbie Schoenherr  
**Building & Grounds** - Scott Ellison  
**Childcare** - Julia Tyler  
**Denominational Affairs** - Jim Merrill  
**Finance Committee** - David Henkel  
**Green Sanctuary** - Phoebe Higgins  
**Health Ministry** - Rev. David Pyle  
**Kitchen Cabinet** - Shelah Wilgus  
**\*Membership Committee** - Silvia Hutchins  
**Leadership/Nominating** - Bryan Buck

**Personnel Committee** - Linda Gulledge  
**Phone Tree** - Kathrine Gooding  
**Publicity** - Joel Rogosin  
**Safety Committee** - Michael Akseven  
**\*Social Action** - Sue Brinkmeyer  
**\*Worship Associates** - David Frank  
**Lift Up Your Voice** - Beth Sutherland  
**Newsletter** - Shelah Wilgus & Tessa Weeks  
**\*Children's Religious Education** - Kappy Paulson  
**Sabbatical Committee** - Gary Zinik  
*\*Member: Program Council of Committee Chairs*

Senior Minister	Rev. Jan Christian	644-3898 X 105	minister@uuventura.org
Asst. Minister	Rev. David Pyle	644-3898 X 102	asstminister@uuventura.org
Office Manager	Becky Burnham	644-3898 X 100	office@uuventura.org
R.E. Director	Julia Tyler	644-3898 X 103	dre@uuventura.org
Music Director	Lily Starobinets	437-6518	lilys@starobinets.com
Ministerial Intern	Kristen Rohm	452-9797	gleasonrohm@cox.net
Lift Up Your Voice	Beth Sutherland	644-3898 X 101	luyv.beth@gmail.com

## Membership News

Are you NEW TO UUCV? Everyone who has joined the congregation in 2010 or 2011 is invited to a "pizza and games party" on Saturday, February 25 from 2-5PM, OFFSITE. This will be a chance to meet and mingle with other new members. For details and directions, see a Membership Committee person (anyone wearing a red lei) at church. You can also call Jo Ann Knowles at 983-2490 or Dot Levy at 984-3438.

Our Orientation/Path to Membership classes continue this month. If you are interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, the history and how our church functions, you are invited to attend the Orientation classes Wednesday, February 1 at 6:30PM and Saturday, February 11 at 1PM. Reverend David will conduct the last session.

To all members, both new and long-time, it is a real pleasure to share Sunday mornings in church with you!

## Safety Committee News







We have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), installed in Berg Hall. Further, there are two new First Aid kits (one near Becky's office and one in the kitchen). If you have any questions regarding this or any other safety issues, please contact committee chair Michael Akseven, [makseven@yahoo.com](mailto:makseven@yahoo.com), 208-0344.

## Set Your Church Payments on Cruise Control

It's easy to set up. If you are friendly with the internet, select the tab "Online Donations" from [www.uuventura.org](http://www.uuventura.org) and follow the directions. If you want help or want to use paper and pen to get this started, contact church treasurer, David Smith at 805/216-9331, [davidpaseo@verizon.net](mailto:davidpaseo@verizon.net), or in the church office immediately after Sunday services.



# FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Bridge - 1pm Orientation Class #2 - 6:30pm Men's Group I (Offsite) - 7pm Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm 	<b>2</b> Book Club - 10am Handicraft Group (Offsite) - 2:30pm Yoga - 5:30pm Worship Assoc - 6:30pm Men's Groups III - 7pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 7pm	<b>3</b> Movie Night - 7pm	<b>4</b> UUv Men's Brkfast (Harbor Carrows - 9am T'ai Chi Chih® - 9am Watercolor Class - 1:30pm
<b>5</b> Music - 9:45am Service - 10am Social Justice Grants Poster Session & Voting - 11:30am Intern Minister Committee - 11:30am RE Potluck and Playground Cleanup - 11:30am	<b>6</b> Women's Group - 1pm Yoga - 4pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 5:30pm Green Conversations - 6:30pm Meditation w/the Friendship Sangha of the Heart - 7pm	<b>7</b> Men's Discussion Group - 10am Women's Discussion Group - 1pm Men's Group II (Offsite) - 6:30pm Men's Group V (Offsite) - 7pm	<b>8</b> Bridge - 1pm B & G Committee - 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm	<b>9</b> Book Club - 10am Yoga - 5:30pm Social Action Coordinating Committee - 6pm Membership Committee - 6:30pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 7pm	<b>10</b> Scrap-booking - 6pm Movie Night - 7pm	<b>11</b> T'ai Chi Chih® - 9am Orientation #3 - 1pm Watercolor - 1:30pm Genetically Modified Organisms Workshop - 4pm Child Care Co-Op - 5pm
<b>12</b> Music - 9:45am Service - 10am Humanism Seminar - 11:30am R.E.A.L. Youth Group - 11:30am Coming of Age Parent Meeting - 11:30am Celebration of Generosity - 11:30am CUUPS - 7pm	<b>13</b> River Haven Dinner Pickup - 3pm Yoga - 4:00 T'ai Chi Chih® - 5:30pm Intro To Meditation - 6:30pm Meditation w/the Friendship Sangha of the Heart - 7pm	<b>14</b> Men's Discussion Group - 10am Women's Discussion Group - 1pm RE Committee - 6pm Finance Comm - 6:30pm Women's Support Groups - 6:30pm 	<b>15</b> Bridge - 1pm Men's Group I (Offsite) - 7pm Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm	<b>16</b> Book Club - 10am Handicraft Group (Offsite) - 2:30pm Yoga - 5:30pm Board of Trustees - 6pm Men's Groups III - 7pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 7pm	<b>17</b> Game Night - 6:30pm Movie Night - 7pm	<b>18</b> All-Church Work Party - 9am T'ai Chi Chih® - 9am Watercolor Class - 1:30pm
<b>19</b> Music - 9:45am Service - 10am Fun Book Club - 11:30am <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - NOON</b> 	<b>20</b>  <b>Church Office Closed</b> Women's Grp - 1pm Yoga - 4pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 5:30pm Green Conversation - 6:30pm Meditation w/the Friendship Sangha of the Heart - 7pm	<b>21</b> Men's Discussion Group - 10am Women's Discussion Group - 1pm Men's Group II (Offsite) - 6:30pm Men's Group V (Offsite) - 7pm 	<b>22</b> Bridge - 1pm Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm	<b>23</b> Book Club - 10am Yoga - 5:30pm UUnique +50 Potluck - 6:30pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 7pm	<b>24</b> Movie Night - 7pm	<b>25</b> T'ai Chi Chih® - 9am Jim Scott Concert - 7pm 
<b>26</b> Music - 9:45am Service - 10am Humanism Seminar - 11:30am R.E.A.L. Youth Group - 11:30am Coming Of Age Curricula Orientation - 11:30am Spiritual Parenting Workshop - 11:30	<b>27</b> Riverhaven Dinner Pick Up - 3pm Yoga - 4pm T'ai Chi Chih® - 5:30pm Meditation w/the Friendship Sangha of the Heart - 7pm	<b>28</b> Men's Discussion Group - 10am Women's Discussion Group - 1pm Women's Support Groups - 6:30pm	<b>29</b> Newsletter Folding - 10am Bridge - 1pm Choir Rehearsal - 7:30pm			

## **Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura**

5654 Ralston Street, Ventura, CA 93003

### **2011-2012 Board of Trustees**

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## **Unitarian Universalist Principles**

**We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote**

- ◆ **The inherent worth and dignity of every person;**
- ◆ **Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;**
- ◆ **Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;**
- ◆ **A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;**
- ◆ **The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;**
- ◆ **The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;**
- ◆ **Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.**