



Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura • 5654 Ralston Street • Ventura, CA • 805/644-3898 • [www.uuventura.org](http://www.uuventura.org)

## Sunday Services

Music: 9:45AM Service: 10AM



### Our April Theme is Wholeness

So much seems broken in the world and often in our lives. We seek a sense of wholeness that seems elusive. It skitters away in part because the world and our lives are impermanent, yet also because we often want to create wholeness too quickly and easily. Sometimes things need to break apart or break open to make room for new ideas, new perspectives, voices that are shut down because they disrupt. White supremacy, patriarchy, hyper nationalism, fear-driven violence all need to be broken apart as part of the process of finding a deeper wholeness. So this month we will hear divergent voices, bring our dear animal companions into the sanctuary, celebrate both Easter and Earth Day as rites of the turning year, all the while considering what needs to be healed and made whole in our lives.

### April 7 – Indigenous Perspective: Radical Love or increased Wholeness

*Roberto Vargas, a community organizer and organization psychologist, Worship Associates Celia Ortenberg, and Joe Hutchins*

### April 14 – The Church of All Creatures – an All-Generations Animal Blessing Service

*Rev. Dana Worsnop  
Worship Associate Jim Merrill*  
All critters on leashes, in carriers, or in cages are invited to worship with us. Photos of pets who are too large or rambunctious to come, as well as teddy bears and other stuffed animals will also receive blessings.

### April 21 – Practice Resurrection

*Rev. Dana Worsnop,  
Worship Associate Krista Mendelsohn*  
Celebrating Easter and Earth Day.

### April 28 – In the Service of Healing and Wholeness

*Rev. Dana Worsnop  
Worship Associate Celia Ortenberg.*

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura 34th Annual Women's Retreat



Mt. Calvary Retreat House, Santa Barbara  
May 3 – May 5, 2019

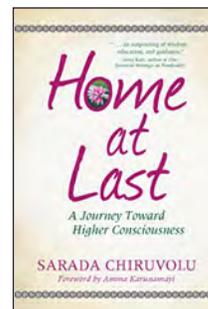
\$270 before April 15 - \$290 after April 15  
Includes Meals, Lodging & Workshops  
Scholarships available

Questions and Information - Dorothy 805/218-9478, [dfasthorse@aol.com](mailto:dfasthorse@aol.com)

### Save the Date

Sunday, May 19 • 11:30AM • Sanctuary

Author Sarada Chiruvolu will speak to us about her journey through deep meditation toward Enlightenment and will share her 10 Simple Steps to help us in our own progress.



Her book *Home At Last, A Journey Toward Higher Consciousness* will be available. Information about Sarada and her work will be posted in Berg Hall after May 1.

### Inside

Ministry News .....	2
Notes from President's Desk.....	3
Social Action .....	4
Religious Education News.....	5
UU Things to Do .....	6-7
Committee News.....	8
April Calendar .....	9
Social Justice Field Trip .....	10

## SAVE THE DATE

Attention Crafters and Shoppers  
The 2019 Annual UUCV Craft Fair  
is November 16 & 17.

More details to come!



**"Like" the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura on Facebook. It's one more way to stay connected.**

*We, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, united by our liberal religious tradition, seek truths, and meaning, and commit to right action. We will nurture our congregation and carry our principles forth to better ourselves, our community, and our planet. To these purposes, we pledge our hearts and hands, our minds and means.*

## MINISTER'S COLUMN

I am writing to you a day after a wonderful Celebration Sunday. There was laughter and spirit and commitment flowing through the sanctuary and Berg Hall. It was a fabulous kick-off to a successful stewardship drive for our 2019-2020 fiscal year. I am so grateful for the multi-faceted generosity of this amazing congregation.

If you have not yet made your pledge for the year, your pledge increases can still be matched by the \$30,000 fund which we received (from UUA funds matching legacy gifts from our members).

I am continually amazed that all of us together essentially create this church out of nothing – nothing but goodwill, love, and commitment. You make this church come into being through your service – through your time, talent, and treasure, your wisdom, work, and wealth.

We often talk about all of the volunteer time and work it takes to bring this community into being. Yet this blog post (from Rev. Erin Wathen, a Christian colleague) has a different taking on volunteering that really resonated with me. She says it is essentially impossible to be a volunteer at church.

You cannot volunteer at your own church, in the same way you cannot babysit your own [children].

Because the church belongs to you in the same way your family does. It's your own place, your own people. So of course you help take care of it.

Of course you do yard work and make coffee and teach the kids and sing in the choir and whatever all else it is you do for the home and the people you love.

A volunteer, in most cases, is just visiting. A fly-by. [It may be helpful], but it's not the same as belonging to something. It's not the same as contributing to something bigger than you, something that's part of who you are.

We volunteer, she goes on, for outside organizations in need, "a place that is important to you, but not in a place that belongs to you."

What we do at our church is serve. "We bring our gifts of love and service to the altar of humanity," as the famously wise author anonymous tells us.

This makes me all the more grateful for all the gifts – of time, talent, and treasure, of love and service – that our dear members and friends bring forth all the time.

We are creating a Beloved Community every day with every breath. It takes all our gifts, our strengths, our foibles, our dreams, our clear heads, our open hearts, our fullest presence.

*So thank you, thank you, thanks you  
Rev. Dana*



### UU Action Team for Immigrant Rights (UU-ATIR)

As part of our efforts towards immigrant justice, participation in the MICOP Monthly Community Meetings is the best place to begin to meet and interact with members of our indigenous, migrant farmworker community. Usually at least 300 people come to these events where food or snacks and café de olla (a wonderfully smooth Mexican coffee process) are often served. This meeting would be a chance for UU members to make a tangible impact on various families' lives, right there and then. It is also an opportunity to develop relationships through which we can forge even broader change for all in our community.

It is ATIR's hope all members of UUCV - from toddlers to elders **come to the Monthly Meeting on Saturday, April 20, 8AM-1PM to put our Principles into action and join the annual Children's Day Celebration at Haydock Intermediate School in Oxnard, CA.** There will be all sorts of activities for families during this event.

For those of us with skills in this area, MICOP welcomes any offer to host a "booth" - perhaps face painting? Or seed-planting? Or watercolors? Or??? For those of us with less leadership capacity in this arena, there will be plenty to do in terms of setting up chairs and tables, packing FoodShare donations (some of which might even come from UUCV!) into bags for families to take home and any number of other little tasks and activities to make this event more fun and run more smoothly.

Spanish or Mixteco speakers are always appreciated, but by no means required to participate.

Bring your goodwill and your favorite munchkins and let's make an impact, build community and have some fun!

## Newsletter Submittals

We value your contributions and very much appreciate email submittals.

Send email submissions for  
On Common Ground to  
[newsletter@uuventura.org](mailto:newsletter@uuventura.org)



**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
**April 21 at Noon**

Next issue is May 2019

*On Common Ground*  
is a monthly publication of

the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura  
5654 Ralston Street, Ventura, CA 93003  
<http://www.uuventura.org>

Minister - Rev. Dana Worsnop

OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT • 503/312-0401

Email: [rev.dana.worsnop@uuventura.org](mailto:rev.dana.worsnop@uuventura.org)

Director of Religious Education

Emily Carroll 805/644-3898, ext 103

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

Congregational Administrator - Jennifer Luce

Monday - Thursday: 9AM - 3PM,

FRIDAY 9AM - 12PM

Phone: 805/644-3898, ext 100

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

*Call first to ensure Jennifer is onsite.*

Church Office

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

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

Music Director - Carolyn Bjerke

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

On Common Ground Editors:

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

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

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

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



## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

With three months left in this church year it seems like a good time for a reminder and some thanks. First, coming up on Sunday, June 9 we will hold our Annual Meeting following the church service. We have a "Slate" of candidates for positions on the Board, Leadership Committee, and the Endowment and Memorial Fund Committees to vote upon. We will also be voting to approve our budget for the 2019-2020 church year. Please be sure to save this date. Your participation in the process reflects our living out the 5th Principle: "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large."

The Slate of Candidates will be posted in advance for everyone's review. Like the other committees and teams that the church has, these positions are filled by volunteers. The difference is that our By-Laws require a vote of the congregation to approve these folks as representatives on our behalf. That's because the positions on the Slate involve granting our highest level of trust to members who will be looking out for the interests of the UUCV. A big Thank You goes to the Leadership Development Committee for presenting this Slate of Candidates to the congregation.

I have always seen Volunteerism as a spiritual practice, a kind of ministry, that makes a difference in the world or in someone's life. Here, at the UUCV, no matter what your contribution please know that every effort creates a ripple that inspires. The sharing of one's time and talent is a gift asked of all members. We do these things because we want to help make the church a better place for all. So, whether you see yourself as one or not, everyone at the UUCV is a leader because you choose to be a positive force for the common good. Amen!

This column is being written before the final results of Celebration Sunday are known. As we close in on creating the budget for 2019-20, committing to the financial support of the church is the last piece that the budget sub-committee needs to complete their work. What I can say about the event is that the sermon by Rev. Greg Ward was deeply meaningful and highlighted the importance of supporting liberal religion in our communities. A special thank you goes to Rev. Dana for bringing it all together, and to Erica Duffy and her team for the wonderful party that followed.

Which brings me to a last word of thanks to you, our members and friends, who support the UUCV with your treasure of a monthly pledge. All of us, with our hopes and our dreams make possible the beloved community that is the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, for continuing the legacy given to us by those who came before, for sharing today with those who are here now, and for providing to those unknown to us a spiritual beacon, Thank You!

*Living in Paradise,*

*Bryan Buck, UUCV Board President*

# Social Action and More

"Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for a kindness." Seneca

## Explore the Mixtec Language, People & Culture

Sunday, April 7 • 11:30am-12:30pm • The Sanctuary

A Presentation by Silvia Ventura Luna, M.A., Mixtec Language Instructor

Cal State University Channel Islands - Department of Global Languages & Cultures



**M**ixtec (Tu'un Savi- Language of the Rain) is an indigenous language spoken by more than 800,000 people largely in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico. Mixtec is not only spoken

in Mexico but also in our community. Over 40,000 speakers live in Ventura County. The Mixtec have flourished for thousands of years, and regarded as among the most advanced societies in pre-Columbian America.

This presentation welcomes anyone wanting to learn about the people, culture, and language as the vibrant Mixteco community moves forward in the 21st century.

*Question & Answer time follows Ms. Ventura Luna's talk.*

## April Inreach/Outreach

**April 7: MICOP (Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project)** aids, organizes and empowers the indigenous Mexican communities of Ventura County, Mixteco-speakers from Oaxaca and Guerrero, Mexico and serves over 8,000 individuals in six program areas: health and family strengthening, community organizing, language access, education, cultural promotion and on our community radio station, Radio Indígena 94.1 FM.

Funds would allow training and certification of two trilingual (Mixteco/Spanish/English) community members to become Department of Justice Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representatives who provide immigration legal assistance to the indigenous immigrant community.

**April 14: LA Cougar Campaign** aims to help mountain lions and other wildlife species thrive by building a wildlife crossing over the 101 freeway in Agoura Hills, CA, the final link to reconnect a vital habitat corridor community members have succeeded in conserving over the last 30 years.

The visionary wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon Road exit is a public/private partnership between Caltrans, the National Park Service (NPS), the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, the California State Coastal Conservancy and The Santa Monica Mountains Fund. The crossing will set a worldwide model for urban wildlife conservation; it will be the largest of its kind in North America, and likely the world, over one of the busiest freeways in the country and in the most densely populated metropolitan center in the United States.

**April 21: CLEAN International** mobilizes and evaluates innovative, environmentally sustainable solutions to sanitation and water-related needs in order to improve the quality of life, overall

health, and educational and economic opportunities of individuals worldwide.

The funding would directly support CLEAN International's water filter program in Uganda. Currently, CLEAN works with a local company, SPOUTS, to distribute extra large "Purifaaya" ceramic water filters to schools. With many students and families lacking access to clean drinking water, the ceramic water filter is an affordable, effective, sustainable, and easy to use solution for providing safe water. Without a filter, students and staff are recurrently sick, often miss work and school. In some cases deaths due to waterborne disease occur from unclean water.

SPOUTS produces the filters with each costing \$100. Through a donation of \$2000, CLEAN would be able to provide 20 classrooms with a new water filter. 20 filters will service 1000 students with clean water for life with only a replacement cartridge needed every two years. For generations to come, these students and their families will have the security and life-changing gift of clean water.

**April 28: UUCV Inreach/Outreach** helps those in our own congregation or someone in the wider community who is in need of assistance.

### Inreach/Outreach Recipients

Your generosity toward those who ask for our help continues to be amazing!

**February 17: Buddy Nation**-\$845

**February 24 - Ventura Homeless Prevention** - \$1,154

**March 3: PSWD YRUU Board**- \$595

**March 10: UUCV Inreach/Outreach**-\$594

*Thanks for all your donations!*



# Religious Education April 2019



	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
<b>NURSERY</b>	WE PROVIDE A CARING ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR TODDLERS AND INFANTS TO NURTURE THEIR EMOTIONAL AND INTELLECTUAL GROWTH WITH PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND ROUTINES.			
<b>PRE-K RAINBOW CONNECTION</b>	OUR FIRST VOTE	ALL GENERATIONS SERVICE - BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - WORSHIP ACTIVITY PACKETS AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN	EASTER CANNED FOOD HUNT! KIDS WILL HUNT FOR CANS OF FOOD LABELED WITH ONLY THEIR TEAM SHAPE! ALL FOOD DONATED TO A LOCAL PANTRY AND ALL CHILDREN RECEIVE A TASTY TREAT AND POTTED PANSY!	IT'S IMPORTANT TO BELIEVE IN OURSELVES
<b>GRADES K-2 PICTURE BOOK UU</b>	EARTH DAY BIRTHDAY			FAMILIES
<b>GRADES 3-5 SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE</b>	BUILDING - DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH			EXPLORING - TRY SOMETHING NEW!
<b>GRADES 6-8 JEDI ACADEMY</b>	SPIRIT - WISDOM COUNCIL			SPIRIT - FREE AND RESPONSIBLE SEARCH
<b>GRADES 9+</b>	DISCUSSION GROUP ON THE SOUL MATTERS MONTHLY THEME: WHOLENESS!			DISCUSSION GROUP ON THE SOUL MATTERS MONTHLY THEME: WHOLENESS!

## NEWS from Religious Education • Emily Carroll, DRE

Happy Birthday

Dear UUCV Community,

This month's Soul Matters theme is wholeness, and I invite you to ponder this koan (i.e. paradoxical anecdote or riddle used to provoke enlightenment). At a summer retreat in a Buddhist monastery in the south of France, my volunteer work was in the bookstore sorting calligraphy. They had lovely sayings on them such as, "This it it" or "Enjoy your steps" enclosed in a circle. After sorting dozens of posters, I came to a blank one. "This one's blank," I mentioned to the nun. She giggled and responded, "That is the Zen circle."

We have two extra special Sundays in April: the blessing of the animals all generations service on the 14th (bring your pets for a blessing!) and a green Easter celebration on the 21st! We've been collecting cans for several weeks and on Easter Sunday we'll label the cans with a particular shape (a purple egg or a blue bunny, etc.) Each child will be assigned a team shape and only hunt for cans with their team label! Once all cans are collected every child will receive a potted pansy with a couple sugary treats as well! We'll also have a family photo booth, and a chalk egg hunt for our littlest ones. All are invited to join us in the back parking lot after the service!

According to the fable: "Sticks in a bundle can't be broken but sticks taken singly can be easily broken. Same applies to people. There is strength in union." May we find wholeness in community and know we are enough!

*With Love and Gratitude*

*Emily Carroll, Director of Religious Education [emily@uuventura.org](mailto:emily@uuventura.org)*

### April Birthdays

2 - Gracie, 6 - Henry, 7 - Dane,  
12 - Finley, 14 - Ethan & Audrey R.,  
18 - Allesandro

### April Events

**Saturday - April 13**

Free Childcare Co-Op

**Sunday - April 14**

Blessing of the Animals All Generations Service

Family Hike after service

After Service Teacher Meeting

**Sunday - April 14 and April 28**

Our Whole Lives class for grades 7-9

**Saturday - April 20**

Dia de Los Ninos MICOP event

**Sunday - April 21**

Easter Canned Food Hunt

**Friday - April 26 • 7:30PM**

Young Adult Discussion & Dinner

# UU Things To Do • Adult Programs

Adult Programs is bursting with opportunities for connection, reflection and growth. Check the newsletter and Adult Programs Board for info about additional classes. For information on ongoing programs, pick up an Adult Programs brochure at the AP Bulletin Board in Berg Hall. **Programs are open to all unless otherwise indicated.**



## Meditation and Buddhist Practice

with Friendship Sangha of the Heart

Monday • 7PM • Church Sanctuary

• **Evening of Mindfulness** includes sitting and walking meditation, a dharma reading and dharma sharing. All are welcome.

<http://FriendshipSangha.org/meditation>

• **Intro to Meditation** Monday, April 8 at 6:30PM in Sanctuary. Information: [FriendshipSangha@gmail.com](mailto:FriendshipSangha@gmail.com)

Contact: Neal Ortenberg 805/368-9835 or [FriendshipSangha@gmail.com](mailto:FriendshipSangha@gmail.com).

Website [FriendshipSangha.org](http://FriendshipSangha.org)

Sponsored by the Friendship Sangha of the Heart, a UUCV Adult Program

## UU Thursday Book Group

Thursday • 10-11:15AM • GREEN ROOM

We read non-fiction and meet weekly. Books with wide-ranging topics are recommended by members and are chosen by consensus. Discussions are wide-ranging and lively. Both congregation members and non-members are warmly welcomed. Contact: Marcy Burns, [mburns4430@roadrunner.com](mailto:mburns4430@roadrunner.com).



## Fun Book Club • April 21

Sunday • 11:45AM • Conference Room

This fiction book group meets for 60-90 minutes after services. All are welcome. In April, we will read Michelle Obama's *Becoming*, Mays's *read will be* May book is *Fruit of the Drunken Tree* by Ingrid Rojas Contreras. Contact: Kappy Paulson 805/647-1600 [kmp160@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kmp160@sbcglobal.net).

## Men's Breakfast Bunch

Saturday • April 6 • 9AM

Carrows, 2401 Harbor Blvd. Ventura

Join us for food and conversation. We are better together. All men welcome. Contact: Ray Escobedo, 805/658-8543 [ray.escobedo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ray.escobedo@sbcglobal.net).

## Drop In Men's Discussion Group

Tuesday • 9:30AM • Conference Room

We discuss political and social issues and current events. All men welcome. Contact: Bill Peltola 805/320-6175 or 805/486-1348.

## Open Men's Support Group

1st & 3rd Thursdays • 7-9PM • Garage

Enjoy fellowship, camaraderie and personal sharing. Contact: Dale Condra, 805/212-0242, [dale15roie@gmail.com](mailto:dale15roie@gmail.com)

## Handicrafters Meet

2nd & 4th Thursday • 2:30PM • Off-site

Bring your project be it knitting, crochet, weaving, beading, sewing (or you name it) for an afternoon of lively conversation. If you are stuck on a project we are here to help. Of course we always have yummy snacks. Contact Shelah Wilgus, 805/658-7245, [preblest@mac.com](mailto:preblest@mac.com).

## Many Paths Group

1st & 3rd Tuesday • 2PM • Green Room

An open spiritual group for all beliefs, with group participation. Questions? Contact Helen McPherson [athelen-mac42@gmail.com](mailto:athelen-mac42@gmail.com) or 805/889-9075. We are no longer holding meditation on Sunday mornings.

## Women's Voices:

### Discussion and Support Group

1st & 3rd Tuesday • 11-1PM • Green Room

A drop-in women's group explores women's roles and issues. Open to all women. Contacts: Suzanne Olsen, 805/701-1024, [suzth2@charter.net](mailto:suzth2@charter.net).

## T'ai Chi Chih® class

Monday • 5:30 - 6:30PM • Sanctuary

A gentle, moving meditation practice promoting balance, physical fitness, and inner calm. **Beginners welcome.** The 1st & 5th Monday are silent, group practice (no instruction).

Donation: \$10 per class (check to UUCV) First class is FREE! Info at Adult Programs table. Contact: Lisa Otero 805/766-1342

## The Watercolor Group

Wednesday • Noon-2:30PM • BERG HALL



Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary. We offer informal instruction, encouragement, and interesting conversation.

Contact Veronica Bear

[veronicabear2000@yahoo.com](mailto:veronicabear2000@yahoo.com).

## UUniques Potluck

Thursday, April 25 • 6:30PM • Berg Hall

Please join us for an evening of good food and conversation. Bring a dish to share and your own table service. A presentation is being planned. A tour is also being planned for April 18. Details of both the presentation and the tour will be available at a later date

For information Merle or Pat 805/642-6316 or [3723emlo@gmail.com](mailto:3723emlo@gmail.com)

## Strong Bones 1 (Beginning)

Monday • 1:30PM • Sanctuary

Wednesday • 1:30PM • Sanctuary

## Strong Bones 2 (Intermediate)

Monday • 2:30PM • Sanctuary

Wednesday • 2:30PM • Sanctuary

Open to all and work at your own pace. \$4/class, bring light weights, and stretch bands if you have them. Contact: Suzi Axtell, instructor, [suzi@axtell.com](mailto:suzi@axtell.com)



# UU Things To Do • Adult Programs



## UU Hikers April 6 and 7 (1st Weekend) 8AM

April's hike is our church auction item beginning backpacking trip. Day hikers are welcome to join us. We will hike and camp along the North Fork of Matilija Creek as far as our crew is comfortable with their packs. Elevation gain is minimal.

We will enjoy the beautiful creek and its many pools, cascades and slides and look forward to a beautiful display of spring wild flowers. The trail head is the end of Matilija Rd. just past Ojai off Route 33.

Be sure you are on Mike's e-mail list to receive more information one week before our outing. Contact Mike Sixbey at 805/205 4032 or Joyce Sattler at 805/320 4437.

## Men's Group #5 has openings for new members

Men's group #5 is looking to add 1-2 new members. This committed men's group meets on the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Andy Edgar-Beltran ([edgar\\_andy@hotmail.com](mailto:edgar_andy@hotmail.com), 805/443-6692).



## WhaleCoast Alaska 2019

Four Unitarian Universalist Fellowships in Alaska invite you to our awe-inspiring, 26<sup>th</sup> annual Alaska tour program

**TOUR #1: National Park Tour, June 8-18, 2019 -- \$3,258**

**TOUR #2: All-Alaska Tour, July 5-17, 2019 -- \$3,887**

**WHERE:** From the coastal waters to the sunny Interior, from wilderness to modern cities. We experience the best of Alaska: Fairbanks, Denali Park, Anchorage, Juneau, Sitka, Seward

**SEE:**

- Wildlife: whales, seals, bears, moose, caribou, & more.
- Glaciers, islands, fjords, and mountain ranges.
- Native American artists and dancers.
- Alaska's finest museums.
- Spectacular travel by train, plane, and boat.

**STAY:** Real Alaska! UU homestays, meals, & dinner parties with Alaska UUs who treat you like friends.



Director: Dave Frey, longtime Fairbanks UU  
More information: [www.WhaleCoastAK.org](http://www.WhaleCoastAK.org)  
Email: [dfrey@WhaleCoastAK.org](mailto:dfrey@WhaleCoastAK.org)  
Telephone: 907/322-4966  
Save - \$100/person discount for group of 8  
Hurry! Each tour sells out when 40 guests register



## April 5 • Wadjda, 2012, PG. Arabic and French with English subtitles.

Persistent 10-year-old Wadjda would like nothing more than a new bicycle so she can beat her friend, a boy, in a race. This film, the first feature by a Saudi woman, features a feminist script. It's an extraordinary tale of a brave girl overcoming one obstacle after another on her journey to self-expression. Director Haifaa Al-Mansour.

## April 12 • The Magic of Belle Isle, 2012, PG.

Morgan Freeman stars as an alcoholic, written-out, once-successful novelist who rediscovers his creativity and zest for life during a summer sojourn on an idyllic island. While the plot outline is a familiar one, there are delightful surprises in this story of one man's redemption. Director Rob Reiner.

## April 19 • Jane Eyre, 1996, PG.

Charlotte Brontë's 1847 masterpiece of English literature has been filmed many times, from 8 silent films to an equal number of foreign language adaptations and a few in the English language. Whether you've read Jane Eyre 10 times or never, there is only one film you need to see—this one. Anna Pacquin plays the orphan Jane, who grows up to find love working as a governess. Stars Charlotte Gainsbourg, William Hurt, Joan Plowright, and Elle Macpherson. Director Franco Zeffirelli.

## April 26 • On the Basis of Sex, 2018, PG-13.

Felicity Jones plays Ruth Bader Ginsburg as a young attorney, wife and mother who argues her first gender discrimination case in court. Ruth teamed up with her husband, attorney Martin Ginsburg, to fight the ground-breaking case that launched her extraordinary career. The screenplay was written by RBG's nephew, Daniel Stiepleman. Director Mimi Leder.

Contact: Julie Moore: [werfamilyvideos@aol.com](mailto:werfamilyvideos@aol.com)

**"Like" the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura on Facebook.  
It's one more way to stay connected.**



## Buildings and Grounds

by Linda Pietrzak

This was the Buildings and Grounds Work Day where we dealt with the aftermath of a few months of rain. We like to see the greenery around the church until all of a sudden it is three feet tall.

Our crew was kept busy dealing with all the weeds. Sherry Anderson, Kitty Merrill, Merle Oberg, Bryan Buck, Ruth Owens, Wil Devine, Linda Pietrzak, Joyce Sattler, Geoff Dann, Chris Garlington, and Arnold Black from the Meditation Group and Michael dealt with weeds for at least part of the time.

Michael has been coming by the church during the week to sweep up pine needles and do other jobs to keep the church looking good – Thank you! Ruth, Bryan, Wil, and Sherry laid down another section of weed barrier along the Ralston side of the building.

After all the wind and rain, there appeared to be a leak after a particularly strong rainy day. Bryan, Wil, and John Puccetti checked for leaks and removed a lot of pine needles from the gutters. They did find a couple of leaks. Good observation Bryan!

Wil and John cleaned out the B & G closet. We can walk in there now without tripping over things that inch their way from the walls.

After sitting through a service looking at a light that wasn't working properly, I recruited Bryan to help replace fluorescent lights that were malfunctioning. Sherry made sure the Olive Tree garden was watered. Joyce sorted the lost and found, picked up trash outside, emptied the outside trash cans and swept the trash enclosure.

Many hands not only make light work, they get a lot done!

## April 2019 Finance News and Views

More time, attention and effort have been spent this year than ever before communicating our church financial and personnel challenges, and soliciting feedback from members on resolving them, and it has been a great success.

We had our first financial conversation meeting last September to explain our challenges. Our second Congregational Conversation was in January. Having 94 members attend this meeting on church finance is a first. Both meetings happened because we are in a year of difficult transitions with the loss of bridge pledges and Beverly Jordan, our Community Life Coordinator.

Because of these conversations, we now have a workable budget for doing nearly all we want to next year for your board of trustees to review and put before you at our June Congregational Meeting. Thanks to our leaders for making this happen and to all the members who participated in these problem-solving conversations. For comments, criticism or questions, contact David Smith at [davidpaseo001@gmail.com](mailto:davidpaseo001@gmail.com) or 805/216-9331

## Don't Forget to check out the Special Green Room Gallery Exhibit

by Veronica Bear

The Green Room Gallery is thrilled to present a new exhibit of artwork from our congregation. The back wall has a special exhibit of photography by Neal Ortenberg entitled *No Human Being Is Illegal* presented by members of ATIR, Action Team for Immigrants Rights of UUCV. The other walls showcase paintings, embroidery and woodwork, by our artists Amada Irma Perez, Cassandra Tondro, Celia Ortenberg, Ginger Plum, Joyce Lombard, Katherine Higgins, Michael Sixbey, Pam Waldron, Priscilla Akin, and Veronica Bear. Most artworks are for sale and the artists donate 30% to UUCV.

If you would like to participate in an exhibit, submit an application to the Gallery Committee. Paper forms are on the Adult Programs table in Berg Hall. The online application is at <http://www.uuventura.org/about-us/location/uucv-green-room-art-gallery/>. Please read the instructions. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at [uucvgallery@yahoo.com](mailto:uucvgallery@yahoo.com).



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 1PM - WOMEN'S GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2:PM - COVENANT GROUP 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 5:30PM - TAI CHI CHIH® 7PM - MEDITATION	<b>2</b> 9:30AM - MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP 11AM - WOMEN'S VOICES 11AM - STAFF MEETING 2PM - MANY PATHS 6PM - COVENANT GROUP 6:30PM - MEN'S GROUP II	<b>3</b> 11AM - WOMEN'S GROUP IV 12PM - WATERCOLOR GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 7PM - MEN'S GROUP 7PM - CHOIR REHEARSAL	<b>4</b> 10AM - BOOK CLUB 5PM - WORSHIP ASSOCIATES MEETIN 5:30PM - LUYV PIZZA PARTY	<b>5</b> 7PM - MOVIE NIGHT	<b>6</b> 8AM - UU HIKERS 9AM - MEN'S BREAKFAST BUNCH
<b>7</b> 10AM - WORSHIP SERVICE 11:30AM - MIXTEC LANGUAGE EVENT WITH SILVIA VICTORIA LUNA 11:45AM - WOMEN'S GROUP	<b>8</b> 11AM - WOMEN'S GROUP V 1PM - COVENANT GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2PM - COV. GRP. PROJECT 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 5:30PM - TAI CHI CHIH® 6PM - IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS ACTION 6:30PM - INTRO TO MEDITATION 7PM - MEDITATION	<b>9</b> 9:30AM - MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP 11AM - STAFF MEETING 1:30PM - PUBLICITY MEETING 4PM - WOMEN'S GROUP VII 4:30PM - CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP 6:30PM - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 7PM - MEN'S GROUP IV 7PM - BELOVED CONVERSATIONS	<b>10</b> 1PM - WATERCOLOR GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2PM - WOMEN'S GROUP VIII 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 6PM - LEADERSHIP COMM. MTG 6PM - AIDS QUILTING 7PM - CHOIR REHEARSAL	<b>11</b> 10AM - BOOK CLUB 11AM - WOMEN'S GROUP VI 2:30PM - HANDICRAFT GROUP (OFF-SITE) 6PM - LUYV 6:30PM - 7PEAT & CLIMATE HUB 6:30PM - B&G MEETING	<b>12</b> 3PM - SCRAPBOOKING 7PM - MOVIE NIGHT	<b>13</b> 9AM - JOURNEY TO BELONGING 4PM - CHILDCARE CO-OP
<b>14</b> 10AM - WORSHIP SERVICE 10AM - BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 11:30AM - GALLERY SET-UP 11:30AM - RE TEACHER MEETING 11:30AM - HUMANIST GROUP 11:45AM - OWL	<b>15 Tax Day</b> 1PM - WOMEN'S GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2PM - COVENANT GROUP 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 5:30PM - TAI CHI CHIH® 7PM - MEDITATION	<b>16</b> 9:30AM - MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP 11AM - WOMEN'S VOICES 11AM - STAFF MEETING 2PM - MANY PATHS 6PM - COVENANT GROUP 6:30PM - MEN'S GROUP V 6:30 PM - MEN'S GROUP II 06:45 PM - WOMEN'S GROUP III	<b>17</b> 11AM - WOMEN'S GROUP IV 12PM - WATERCOLOR GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 7PM - MEN'S GROUP 7PM - CHOIR REHEARSAL	<b>18</b> 10AM - BOOK CLUB 6PM - BOARD OF TRUSTEES 6PM - LEADERSHIP DEV. MEETING	<b>19 Good Friday</b> 7PM - MOVIE NIGHT	<b>20</b> 9AM - ALL CHURCH B&G WORK PARTY 9AM - DIA DE LOS NINOS
<b>21</b> 10AM - WORSHIP SERVICE 11AM - EASTER FESTIVITIES! 11:30AM - FUN BOOK CLUB 11:45AM - WOMEN'S GROUP	<b>22 EARTH DAY</b> 1AM - WOMENS GROUP V 1PM - COVENANT GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 5:30PM - TAI CHI CHIH® 6PM - SOCIAL ACTION MEETING 7PM - MEDITATION	<b>23</b> 9:30AM - MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP 11AM - STAFF MEETING 4PM - WOMEN'S GROUP VII 6PM - COV. GRP. FACILITATOR MTG 7PM - MEN'S GROUP 7PM - BELOVED CONVERSATIONS	<b>24</b> 11AM - NEWSLETTER FOLDING 12:00 PM - WATERCOLOR GROUP 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2PM - WOMEN'S GROUP VIII 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 6PM - AIDS QUILTING 7PM - CHOIR REHEARSAL	<b>25</b> 10AM - BOOK CLUB 11AM - WOMEN'S GROUP VI 2:30PM - HANDICRAFT GROUP (OFF-SITE) 6:30PM - UUNIQUES 50+ POTLUCK	<b>26 ARBOR DAY</b> 8AM - PSWD ASSEMBLY (OFF-SITE) 7PM - MOVIE NIGHT 7:30PM - YOUNG ADULT GROUP	<b>27</b> 8AM - PSWD ASSEMBLY (OFF-SITE) 2PM - RE WORK PARTY
<b>28</b> 8AM - PSWD ASSEMBLY (OFF-SITE) 10AM - WORSHIP SERVICE 11:30AM - SAFETY TEAM MEETING 11:30AM - HUMANIST GROUP 11:45AM - OWL 5PM - MOM'S GROUP	<b>29</b> 1:30PM - STRONG BONES 1 2:30PM - STRONG BONES 2 5:30PM - TAI CHI CHIH® 6PG - SILENT MEAL WITH SANGHA 7PM - MEDITATION	<b>30</b> 9:30AM - MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP 11AM - STAFF MEETING				

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura

5654 Ralston Street, Ventura, CA 9303

### 2017-18 Board of Trustees

President

Bryan Buck

Vice President

Janice Frank

Secretary

Vel Linden-Akseven

Treasurer

Jim Waldron

Trustees at Large

Ron Dallas

Yukio Okano

Kent Brinkmeyer

### *How Do You Partner With Local Grassroots Organizations?* **Social Justice Field Trip at the PSW District Assembly:**

For years, the UU Church of Long Beach has partnered with the East Yards Communities for Environmental Justice as it gives a voice to the communities surrounding the Port of Long Beach that suffer the impacts of harbor and port pollution.

How does UU Long Beach do it? And how can our UU congregation better partner with grassroots organizations in our community to advance your UU values?

The UU College of Social Justice will lead a field trip during the Pacific Southwest District Assembly and present a program entitled “How Your Congregation Can Partner with Local Grassroots Organizations.”

The district assembly will take place April 26-28 at the UU Church of Long

Beach. You can get information about the DA and the social justice field trip and register right now.

As we work to end oppression in the world, the last thing we want to do is re-create it — that’s why eye-to-eye partnerships are so important. We want to make sure that we come into partnership treating everyone with the dignity and respect that we all deserve.

This workshop will offer concrete acts of solidarity, while honoring the vision, expertise and self-determination of people on the ground.

Those who participate in the field trip will spend part of the afternoon helping the East Yard Communities conduct its annual Toxic Tour of its community, raising conscious of the impact that harbor traffic - ships, trucks and

trains - has on the neighborhoods of Long Beach and East and Southeast Los Angeles.

They will also learn some of the ups and downs of the UU Church of Long Beach’s partnership with the East Yards Communities and offer you some insight into how to effectively partner with grassroots organizations in your church’s community.

“This would be the right starting point for any congregation that wants to see its social justice values demonstrated in their community,” said Heather Vickery, a senior associate with the UU College of Social Justice.

**Register now for the 2019 Pacific Southwest District Assembly April 26-28 at the UU Church of Long Beach.**