

*Living with Integrity, Nurturing Wonder, Inspiring Action*



# Kaleidoscope

April 2023

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

[www.ussb.org](http://www.ussb.org)

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## Sundays in April Services at 10:00 AM

Sunday, April 2

Lay Leader Ellen Broidy

### “Passing Over: The Celebration and Challenge of Passover”

Passover commemorates the liberation of the Jews from enslavement in Egypt. The story of the exodus is told and retold at the Seder, an interactive, fun, and engaging dinner featuring ritual foods, plenty of wine, a special “treasure” hunt for the kids, and, when all goes well, good cheer. Members of our congregation will share their stories of Passovers past and, in traditional Passover fashion, raise some questions about the meaning of liberation in the midst of a fraught and challenging world.

Sunday, April 16

Rev. Julia Hamilton

### “Longing for Community”

More and more, we live “curated” lives: What we read, who our friends are, the activities we choose — the possibilities quickly become narrower and narrower. But sometimes life breaks through these curated experiences and shakes us out of our chosen circles. How does this congregation offer us connection and community, and help us learn to live with meaning and purpose, even when things feel out of our control?

Sunday, April 9

Rev. Julia Hamilton

### “Longing for Life”

When we liberate the story of Easter from a literal interpretation, we discover a holiday that invites us into a springtime shout of joy for the inexpressibility of life. Let the “Alleluias” ring out! And don’t forget our annual Easter egg “Hunt for Justice” with prizes and treats for kids of all ages.

Sunday, April 23

Rev. Julia Hamilton

### “Longing for Eden”

On this Earth Day, let us honor our longing to be at home in the world, and recognize that the disruption caused by climate change is not just a challenge to our physical existence, but also brings on a kind of spiritual grief. How do we navigate our fear of losing “Eden”?

Sunday, April 30

To be announced — see the weekly email  
for more information.

## Alliance in April

**L**isa Carlos will share facts on local housing crisis and demographics, solutions, and advocacy strategies using projection of slides with information.

Carlos, a policy analyst, will frame the problem and suggest a pathway to improvement. She will talk about who is being impacted the most by this crisis and how.



*Lisa Carlos*

Please come to Parish Hall at 2:00 PM on Friday, April 7 and bring your friends and neighbors! The Alliance program series is open to all members of USSB and the public.

Lisa Carlos began her career in Washington, D.C., evaluating migrant farmworker programs and policies for the U.S. Department of Education and National Commission on Migrant Education. In California, she spent over a decade advising state and local education policymakers as the director of research for two non-profits, WestEd and EdSource. She is currently a Commissioner for the City of Santa Barbara Housing Authority and serves on the board of Habitat for Humanity of Southern Santa Barbara County and the League of Women Voters where she advocates for and analyzes affordable housing — a topic she began monitoring while living in the Bay Area. Carlos grew up and attended public schools in Santa Barbara. She earned a BA in political science from Stanford and a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

## Journaling Hour

**R**emember when family gatherings, meetings, and social activities were all online? If you miss that, try our once-a-week journaling group where we connect, write in private, and then share our writing (not mandatory). It's fun, there's usually a poem or two, and you will feel surprisingly recharged and refreshed! Email Chuck Flacks at [chuck.flacks@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.flacks@gmail.com) for info.

## Board of Trustees Meetings

**O**ur Community Conversation on March 24 revealed that members would appreciate easier access to the monthly board meeting agenda and information on how to attend. Beginning this month, the meeting announcement will be included in the weekly news email on the Friday before each meeting, and will include a link to the agenda. In turn, the agenda will have the Zoom link to the meeting, which is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. USSB members are always welcome to attend and an open forum will be available at the beginning of each meeting to address the board or ask a question.

JUDY FARRIS  
FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Passover Seder April 5

5:00 to 7:00 pm in Parish Hall

**C**elebrate spring and freedom as we retell the traditional story of the liberation of the Israelites from Egypt. In addition to the serious significance of Passover, there's fun for all ages—the telling of a great story, music and singing, games for children, and a celebration of our community spirit. Everyone participates!

Admission is \$20.00 for adults, \$5.00 for youth 14–18, children under 14 are free (maximum \$45/family) – OR – contribute a traditional Passover dish (recipes provided). Sign up on Realm or in the garden during coffee hour to volunteer or reserve your seat(s). Reserve early: space is limited for this fun and meaningful intergenerational event. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, April 3.

## UU Open Mic at Parish Hall

**C**ome to Parish Hall and bring your friends to a poetry and song UU Open Mic at 4:00 PM Sunday, April 30. All styles of music and poetry are welcome! All UUsers are welcome. Come play, sing or speak or just listen. \$2 per person cover charge goes to the UU. Refreshments will be available. Sign-up time for participants is 3:30 PM. Music and poetry starts at 4:00. Bring your own instrument. PA and sound provided. Five minutes maximum.

# Adult & Children's Religious Exploration

## Pizza Church!

On a chilly March night, 27 parents and kids gathered in Parish Hall for a lively pizza dinner, followed by an even livelier family chapel in the sanctuary. Children played together, parents had an opportunity to chat, and families made chalices to bring home. We even talked a bit about our conceptions of God! It was a wonderful night. We're looking forward to our second Pizza Church for families on Friday, April 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in Parish Hall.

## April Good Things Growing: Stanley Tzankov

With rents for a two-bedroom apartment in Santa Barbara topping \$3,000 a month, living in our fair community is increasingly out of reach for middle and low-income individuals and families. Who is standing up for the students, essential workers, seniors, and families trying to find a place to live in our community?

Join us in conversation with Stanley Tzankov, founder of the Santa Barbara Tenants Union, to learn about the burgeoning tenant's movement in Santa Barbara. Tzankov is a self-described, "Davis-raised Bulgarian-born UCSB alum working for social, economic, environmental, and political change in the 805." In addition to his work with the Tenants Union, Tzankov is the Donor Relations Manager for CAUSE (Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustained Economy). We look forward to hearing more about the good trouble Stanley is getting up to in our community. Stay tuned for the date and time of this April Good Things Growing event.

CHARLA BREGANTE  
DIRECTOR OF LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION  
CHARLA@USSB.ORG

## Fashion Fling: Save the Date!

Ladies, start going through your closets because we've set the date for our Spring Fashion Fling: Friday, May 26 will be Girlfriends' Night, and Saturday May 27 we'll open up to the public.



*Above:* Dinner and community at Pizza Church.  
*Below:* Persephone chose the color for her family's chalice.



Purim was just one of the fun holidays we celebrated during the Time for All Ages in March.



# Living in Harmony with Each Other and the Earth

We have an incredible opportunity to join other UU congregants at the Pacific Southwest Service Area Assembly taking place on April 21-23 at the Unitarian Universalists San Luis Obispo. Share in workshops, meals, wine tasting, nature preserve walks worship and song. Speaker Chairwoman **Violet Sage Walker** of the Northern Chumash tribal Council (NCTC) will speak on the formation of a Chumash Heritage Natural Marine Sanctuary. **Mona Olivas Tucker**, Tribal Chair of the ytt Tribe will speak on tribal history and the fight to recover tribal lands.

Find places to stay and dine, delegate information, financial assistance, vendor information and other needed details at <https://www.uucamp.org/camps-retreats/family-camps/2023-pacific-southwest-service-area-assembly/>.

There is also a chance to help sponsor a youth to attend the corresponding Youth Con. Take advantage of the fortuity of boosting our commitments to live in harmony. Meeting up with attendees from other regional UU congregations will be an inspiring and growing experience. Please let **Kathleen Boehm** know your intentions to attend so we may register you as a voting delegate.

## April Outreach Offering *The Alternatives to Violence Project*

The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) began 50 years ago after the Attica Prison uprising, when a group of inmates reached out to Quaker volunteers to help design a program that would give them nonviolence skills. Since then, it has become an international movement whose guiding philosophy is that there is a power for peace and good in everyone, and that this power has the ability to transform violence. AVP builds on a spiritual base of caring for self and others, in prisons and in the wider community. The Santa Barbara AVP is a multicultural volunteer organization that teaches conflict management skills to teens referred by the Santa Barbara Unified School District. Experiential work-



shops introduce skills and resources to deal with the environment in positive healthy ways, empowering individuals to liberate themselves from the burden of violence. During the pandemic, AVP transitioned to outdoor work-

shops and also kept in touch with workshop graduates, helping them access resources like food, housing, and jobs. Since 2018, SBAVP graduates have been involved in substantially fewer fights, violence, office referrals, and truancy. To learn more about the Santa Barbara Alternatives to Violence Project, including how you volunteer, please visit [www.sbavp.org](http://www.sbavp.org) or speak with USSB member **Donnis Galvan**.

## UUA General Assembly 2023 “Faithfully Becoming”

Join UUA attendees June 21-25 online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. General Assembly 2023 will be a multi-platform event with registration options for in-person and/or virtual participation. In-person registration includes access to events scheduled to take place in Pittsburgh, as well as everything available to virtual registrants. Full virtual registration includes access to the GA app, as well as all on-demand programming, live webinars, and live-streamed events

We are at a threshold moment for our faith and will choose the next path in our journey. Consider new articulations of Article II (including our Principles and Purpose) and elect a new president to lead our Association. These are decisions that will shape who we are and how we respond to and grow through these times. These changes offer us possibilities for becoming more connected, courageous, inclusive, generous, and continuing our ongoing journey of becoming Beloved Community.

Registration is now open! Register early to secure the lowest rates. Volunteer opportunities and financial support are available at [www.uua.org/ga/registration](http://www.uua.org/ga/registration).

USSB is allotted 10 voting delegates. If you wish to register as a delegate please let **Kathleen Boehm** know. One may register as a “voting delegate only” without requiring a fee. Explore the options at the UUA.org. Be part of the excitement of growing our faith.

*Join us for a community celebration!*

# **SANTA BARBARA'S TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY**

**Saturday April 1st, 2023 5pm-9pm**

at the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara  
1535 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara 93101

An evening with art, music and food,  
celebrating our transgender, non-binary and  
gender nonconforming community and their families



For advance tickets and donations: [sbtan.org/donate](https://sbtan.org/donate)

For questions or reduced cost tickets: [info@sbtan.org](mailto:info@sbtan.org)

Suggested ticket donation: \$25-\$50 general / \$10 students



# All in the Family

Congratulations to **Bruce Daniels** and **Stuart Brandt**! They were married in a small ceremony at **Sue Hebert's** house in March.

## Recent Deaths

**Nancy Murdock**, May 25, 1943 - March 3, 2023

**Pat Kruger**, April 10, 1934 - March 21, 2023

**Katie Brooks**, April 10, 1981 - January 2023

If you have any memories to share of Nancy, Pat, or Katie, please send them to [kaleidoscope@ussb.org](mailto:kaleidoscope@ussb.org).



Pat Kruger



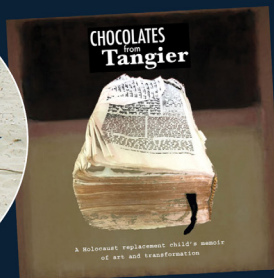
Nancy Murdock

## YOM HASHOAH HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

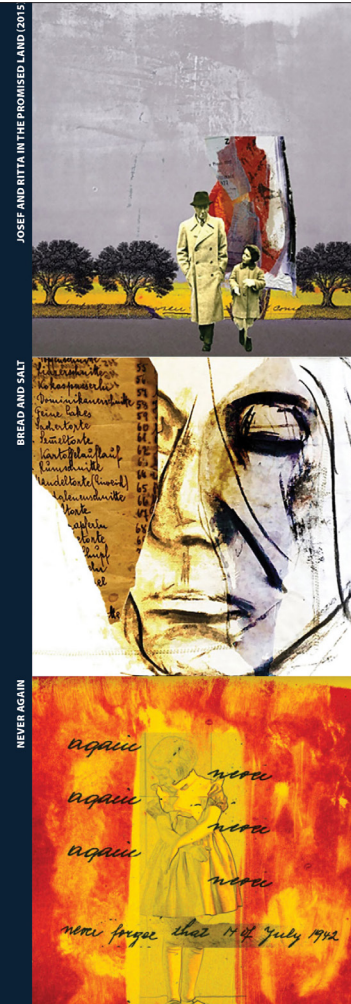
SUNDAY, APRIL 16 · 7 PM

*Please join us for*

**Congregation B'nai B'rith's  
Yom HaShoah observance,  
being held in conjunction with and at  
Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara,  
1535 Santa Barbara St.**



The featured speaker will be artist and the child of Holocaust survivors Jana Zimmer, author of *Chocolates from Tangiers: A Holocaust Replacement Child's Memoir of Art and Transformation*





## The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

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Rev. Kenneth Collier, Minister Emeritus

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The office is open Sunday mornings and Monday to Thursday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Email [ussb@ussb.org](mailto:ussb@ussb.org), or call (805) 965-4583

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Deadline for the May issue: Tuesday, April 25  
Email: [Kaleidoscope@ussb.org](mailto:Kaleidoscope@ussb.org)

Join us Sundays at 10:00 AM on Zoom or Facebook,  
or use your phone to dial in and hear the service live

Call 1-669-900-6833, and then enter meeting ID 960 0363 8223# and you will be able to listen to the service on your phone. You may call in starting at 9:55 AM.

Zoom and Facebook links are sent out in the Friday email, in a special Sunday morning email, and are always available on our website, [www.ussb.org](http://www.ussb.org).

Contact our office at [ussb@ussb.org](mailto:ussb@ussb.org) if you'd like to be added to our email list.

Can't be with us when we're live Sunday morning? Every Sunday we post the video of that day's service on [www.ussb.org/worship/archive](http://www.ussb.org/worship/archive).