



Kaleidoscope

June 2023

The Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

www.ussb.org

Sundays in June Services at 10:00 AM

Sunday, June 4

Rev. Julia Hamilton

“Freedom to Bloom”

The Flower Communion, our beautiful yearly celebration that happens in UU congregations around the world, was born in Prague in 1923, as extremist ideology was on the rise in Eastern Europe. As we confront the rise of fascism in our own time, this ritual has important lessons for us about the necessity of beauty and diversity in the struggle for freedom. Bring a flower — any kind, fancy or simple or wild or weed — to services on this Sunday, whether you are online or in person!

And don't forget to stay for our Annual Meeting at 11:30 AM in Parish Hall! Read more about it on page 2.

Sunday, June 18

Peter Hale & Ken Ralph

“Reflections on Fatherhood”

Each year we set aside the third Sunday in June to celebrate those among us who have assumed the role of fathering a child. This is no easy undertaking. It requires time, commitment, generosity, support, advice, forgiveness, sacrifice, and unending compassion. Father's Day provides the opportunity to acknowledge and thank those intrepid souls who have given so generously of themselves. But fatherhood is not only about giving; it's also about receiving. Join us as we hear four fathers from our congregation reflect on what they have learned from their children and the gifts that come with fatherhood.

Sunday, June 11

Rev. Julia Hamilton

“The Next Horizon”

As a religious tradition, we are a community of decades and centuries, not years. What does it mean to think not just of ourselves but of the generations to come, and how do we plan for the future when so much is uncertain? Join us for a service honoring the future of this faith, including a “bridging” celebration for the graduating youth.

Sunday, June 25

The Justice & Equity Team

“Summer of Pride: More Than Wearing a Button”

Being an ally to our LGBTQ+ siblings means more than wearing a Pride button. Join the USSB Justice & Equity Team as we explore the important roles allies play in the fight for justice for the LGBTQ+ community.



Gun Etiquette Game Show June 3

3:00 PM in Parish Hall; \$8 suggested donation

Ever wonder how we Americans got ourselves into this gun mess? How did firearms become our number-one cause of death for minors? What does gun violence cost us every year, which states allow permitless open carry, and how do we even talk about guns in a sensible way? You are not alone. Artist and USSB member **Dana Zurzolo**'s long-term research concerning gun culture, mass shootings, collective trauma, the legal wranglings, and the gun industry is surprising, shocking, and well hidden. Join her as she shares her knowledge creatively, visually, and with humor and insight using audience participation and a lot of candor.

Gun Etiquette: The Gun Game Show is designed to amuse, entertain, shock, and inform you. It will give you cultural history, context and facts so you can discuss these issues with others. Behind all the horror, thoughts and prayers, and statistics are real people looking for

Alliance Meeting Trip to Hopi

Friday, June 2 at 2:00 PM in Jefferson Hall

This spring a group of members and youth traveled to Arizona for our congregation's annual service trip to members of the Hopi nation. Join us as **Rev. Julia Hamilton** shares slides and memories of this trip. She will describe how our USSB community and the Hopi people have developed a special friendship.

SYLVIA ABUALY, ALLIANCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE



All in the Family

Karen Harris and **Paul Roark** now have two grandsons! **Larkin Roark Parmenter** was born April 14, 2023 to **Elaine Harris Roark** and **Ryan Parmenter**. Larkin is the brother of two-year-old **Jules Roark Parmenter**.

Gun Etiquette: the Gun Game Show

An interactive, raucous game revealing the **truth** about guns in America



By multi-media artist Dana Zurzolo

Saturday, June 3rd, 3:00 pm

Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, 1535 Santa Barbara Street, S.B.

Game starts at 3:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$8

solutions. Hence the game — and it is a real game! You will get a wider vocabulary with which to approach the gun issue and your personal beliefs. You need merely be brave enough to show up! You will be surprised!

USSB Annual Meeting of the Membership

Sunday, June 4 at 11:30 AM in-person and online

Review the Notified Annual Meeting Agenda at <http://ussb.org/annualmeeting>

The Annual Meeting is a business meeting for members to vote on important ballot measures including our annual budget for the coming fiscal year and nominees for the Nominating Committee and Board of Trustees. It is also a time to celebrate our shared accomplishments over the past year, look ahead to next year, and be together in community. Please join us for this business meeting and celebration on Sunday, June 4 at 11:30 AM in Parish Hall, as well as live-streamed on the same link as Sunday service.

To join online, click:

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96003638223>

Or call into the meeting by dialing: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 960 0363 8223

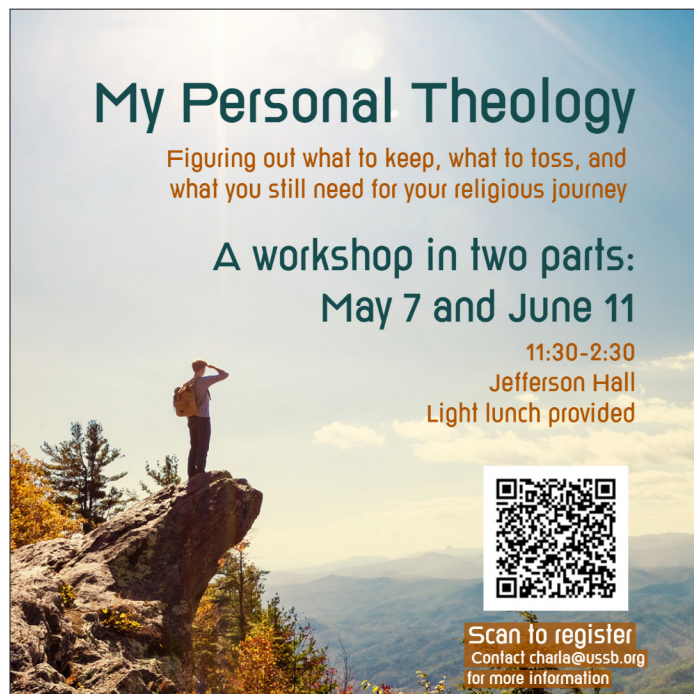
Adult & Children's Religious Exploration

My Personal Theology

Sunday, June 11 from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM in Jefferson Hall

What do you say when someone asks you what Unitarian Universalists believe? What do you say when someone asks you what you believe? How do you reconcile the faith tradition — if any — you were raised in with your UU faith? And what about other faith traditions you identify with? Can you be a UU and something else too?


This is the second of a two-part workshop. Participants are invited to thoughtfully unpack your beliefs and figure out what to keep, what to get rid of, and what you still might need for your lifelong search for truth and meaning. **Nate Rich** and **Charla Bregante** facilitate, and lunch is included. Missed the first session, but interested in this one? Register on Realm, sign up in the garden on Sunday, or contact charla@ussb.org.



My Personal Theology
Figuring out what to keep, what to toss, and what you still need for your religious journey

A workshop in two parts:
May 7 and June 11

11:30-2:30
Jefferson Hall
Light lunch provided



Scan to register
Contact charla@ussb.org
for more information

CRE Makerspace Sundays!

Beginning Sunday, June 11, right after the Time for All Ages kids are invited to enjoy an hour of hands-on, tech-free, creative play. Every summer Sunday will feature new materials to explore and projects to make including cardboard construction, sewing, art from the recycling bin, painting, deconstruction, maybe a little gardening and science, and whatever else **Janey** and **Christina**, our Master Makers, cook up. Kids' ideas are welcome too!

J & E Invites You to a Summer of Pride

USSB is a Welcoming Congregation. We strive for radical inclusion and spaces that honor every part of our identities. On June 25, members of the USSB Justice



GET YOUR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING
IT'S TIME FOR ...

**CRE Makerspace
Sundays!**



cardboard construction * sewing * painting *
outdoor play * nature crafts * science projects *
and more

BEGINNING SUNDAY, JUNE 11

& Equity Team will kick off a Summer of Pride with a worship service on the important roles allies play in the fight for justice and equity for the LGBTQ+ community. Look for opportunities throughout the summer to learn, take action, and celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride! If you would like to find out more about what the Justice & Equity Team is up to, join us on our weekly J & E Call at 10:00 am every Friday. Contact **Nancy Edmundson**, **Justine Sutton**, or **Charla Bregante** for a Zoom link.



The USSB Justice & Equity Team invites you to

**A SUMMER OF
PRIDE**



multigenerational opportunities for
education, action, and celebration

June 25 * July 16 * August 20

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

Earth Advocates Corner

Earth Advocates was formed in response to concerns about global climate change and increasing risks to environmental sustainability. The threats are real and immediate. Locally, we have seen more frequent and severe wildfires, extraordinary drought conditions, and extreme weather events leading to floods and mudslides. Impacts elsewhere are even more severe, often affecting the most vulnerable communities the hardest. Scientists affiliated with the United Nations have clearly stated that we have until 2030 to reduce our carbon emissions by 45% or face even greater environmental disasters than we have experienced in the recent past. That leaves us just six-and-a-half years to achieve this goal. New research also shows that global animal populations are declining more rapidly than previously believed, and some scientists argue that human activity has set off the world's sixth mass extinction event.



Earth Advocates' mission is to educate, inspire, and take actions toward ending the climate emergency and promoting ecological sustainability. Our goals are to empower individuals within our congregation, change facilities and practices as needed, and advocate throughout the Santa Barbara community.

While this can sound both frightening and overwhelming, scientists also tell us that if we take rapid and sustained actions, we can stave off the worst impacts. Earth Advocates was formed to help our congregation do our part to attain this goal. We will provide information and tools to help us all work toward ending the climate emergency and adopt practices that allow us to tread more lightly on the Earth. We are committed to leading our congregation to make necessary changes in our awareness and behavior and ask you to join with us in creating a more hospitable world for our generation and generations to come. Together we can make a difference.

Look for us during the coffee hour at our courtyard table, where we will provide ideas on how to reduce our carbon footprint and adopt more sustainable practices. Watch for us in future *Kaleidoscope* issues where we will discuss issues of concern, and you can also follow us on Realm. Come and talk to us about your concerns, offer us your suggestions or sign up to be a volunteer. Our committee is **Arianna Jansma, Sandy Grasso-Boyd, Lorraine and Craig Woodman, Judy Farris, James McMath, Robert Warner, Julie Lopp, Hod Gray, and Vicki Cox** (a non-UU who is also passionate about climate awareness).

Questions? Contact Arianna Jansma.



From left: James McMath, Lorraine and Craig Woodman, Joy and Robert Warner, Arianna Jansma, Hod Gray, Julie Lopp, and Sandy Grasso-Boyd.

An Invitation to the Juneteenth Block Party!

Sunday, June 18 from noon to 5:00 PM on the 200 block of Gray Ave. in the Funk Zone

Juneteenth Santa Barbara is a local celebration of the national recognition of Black Independence Day. It is a collaborative effort to showcase Black culture, talent, and joy in Santa Barbara County. This event, now in its sixth year, centers on a free community block party that will be held in historically Black Santa Barbara, now known as the Funk Zone. With a theme of "Nourishing the People," the free community block party will honor the cultural connection of Black/African-American food and the ancestral ties to our community.

The community is invited to enjoy live local music, dancing, poetry, spoken word, artist exhibitions, storytelling, soul food, and a community social food cook-off. We will also have the Black Artisan Market, which includes Black-led community organizations showcasing their work at their own booths. Year-round, Juneteenth Santa Barbara utilizes its platform to uplift all Black/African American-led/serving organizations and plays a key role in coordinating Black History Month events and monthly Santa Barbara County Black Leaders Meetings. We look forward to nourishing our community in celebration of local Black efforts and opportunities to engage with meaningful partnerships and relationships. Come join the fun!



Dead Pool

They say the great reservoirs on the Colorado River,
with their drowned canyons and promise of endless recreation
are about to “dead pool” — yes, a verb meaning to become useless,
from which no more water can be removed for human use,
a puddle at the bottom of the bone-white scar in place of marbled canyon walls,
waiting to evaporate into the heat of a cartoon sky.

Maybe one day these bleached canyons will again turn pink and orange,
Maybe clear waters will flow from pool to pool under sycamore shade,
Howdy Doody and Harry Belafonte and banana splits will be the rage,
And streets will carry winged vehicles powered by endless supplies of petrol.
And drawing boards will fill with dreams of high buildings and great dams.
Maybe the air will again be heavy with orange blossoms, groves flooded from inexhaustible
irrigation canals.

And all those trading posts beneath red rock cliffs will fill with toy drums and turquoise.
And all will be Industry on Parade and Victory at Sea.
And water will crest the rows of Anasazi corn.
And we will return to what then we did not call greed,
or hubris,
rather simply our inheritance.

— Tom Moore

June Outreach Offering **Showers of Blessing**

Showers of Blessing provides free hot showers, fosters compassionate hygienic care, and offers access to critical services for people experiencing homelessness. Every week, Showers of Blessing drives a shower trailer to five established sites in Santa Barbara and Goleta. With each shower, their guests receive a freshly laundered towel and washcloth, a pair of new cotton socks, a pair of new underwear, hygiene items, and limited emergency clothing. Showers of Blessing also offers guests companionship, conversation, and contact with other homeless service providers. Their services are entirely free and access is unconditional to all people who are without a house or are in temporary or unstable housing.



For more information about Showers of Blessing, including how to volunteer, please visit <http://showersofblessingsb.org> or talk to USSB member **Sally Hamilton**.

UUA General Assembly **June 21-23, 2023** **Pittsburgh, PA**

Experience sharing your voice among thousands of other UUs by attending the UUA General Assembly. You can be there digitally or in person. Being at GA is a chance to deepen your convictions and find allies in carrying them out. Get a taste of the events and workshops by visiting <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

If you register for GA, please consider being a delegate for USSB. Talk to **Kathleen Boehm** to find out how. The registration fee for the business sessions only is a donation. One can be a delegate without leaving Santa Barbara.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

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Rev. Kenneth Collier, Minister Emeritus

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

Deadline for the July issue: Monday, June 26
Email: 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.

Contact our office at 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.