Sundays in May
The May Theme is Beauty

“You are meant for love and beauty. You belong where you are known and where your future is not just a resource, but a promise . . .”

— Rev. Teresa Soto

Sunday, May 1
Rev. Julia Hamilton
“Building a New Way: The 8th Principle”

We humans seem to have a spiritual longing for wholeness in a broken-hearted world. Approaching our anti-racism work as an outgrowth of that longing for wholeness transforms it from a “task for a sub-committee” into a spiritual practice for the whole congregation. UUs across the nation are considering what it means to add an eighth UU principle that would articulate this shift within our movement. Come and learn more about it!

Sunday, May 15
Rev. Julia Hamilton
“The Bold & the Beautiful”

The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara is beautiful, but not just because we have a nice building across the street from a gorgeous park. The radiance comes from within — from the human beings gathered here who shine their love out for all to see. Here at USSB we are creating a bold vision for a beloved community where all people, and the earth itself, can flourish and thrive. Come celebrate with us!

*There will be a special celebration event after the service at Social Hour, where we give thanks for your gifts that make this vision come to life!

Sunday, May 8
Rev. Julia Hamilton
“Mother’s Day: It’s Complicated”

Our relationship to the concept of “mothering” is multi-faceted and complex. This Sunday, we will be recognizing the joys, sorrows, and complexities that come with this holiday, and sharing about one facet that is often overlooked: Birth Mothers (also called biological mothers or first mothers or non-binary birth parents) who have, for many different reasons, had a child placed in adoption. Let us expand our understanding of the many things that “Mother’s Day” can mean, so that we can truly become an inclusive and loving community where everyone’s life story is honored.

Sunday, May 22
The COA Class
“Coming of Age”

Seven remarkable youth, partnered with adult mentors, have spent this spring engaged in deep reflection about what it means to grow into a life of integrity, wonder, and action. Come and listen as our 2022 Coming of Age class takes the lead on Sunday and shares their wisdom with the rest of us!

Sunday, May 29
Ellen Broidy & the Worship Arts Team
“Reflections on Beauty”
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.

If you are a member, an electronic ballot will come directly to your email, so keep an eye on your inbox. More information on the annual meeting ballot measures, and proposed budget can be found at www.ussb.org/annualmeeting.

The notified agenda for this year’s annual meeting can be found on page 6, and candidate information can be found on pages 7 and 8.

If you have been part of the USSB congregation these past three years, you know of the anti-racism work we have activated. Many of our members have engaged in Beloved Conversation work and Black Lives Matter protests. In June 2020, your board of directors set up the Anti-Racism Commission and our congregation adopted a statement of conscience:

“USSB supports the five demands of Black Lives Matter SB. We urge the Santa Barbara City Council and the County Board of Supervisors to condemn police brutality and declare racism a public health emergency. USSB further supports and affirms Black Lives Matter and will renew and strengthen our commitment to anti-racism work and to dismantling all systems of white supremacy.”

www.ussb.org/justice/anti-racism

Now, as we move forward with our intentions to fight racism, your board of trustees, with the Anti-Racism Commission, support the Black Lives UU (BLUU) organizing collective to encourage all Unitarian Universalists to advocate for the formal adoption of an eighth principle, articulating a commitment to the dismantling of white supremacy, within the stated principles of our faith.

The Eighth Principle affirms and promotes “journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

It has been over 36 years since the UUA adopted the seven principles by which we define our values. To add an eighth will enhance our focus on social justice. Just as UUA congregations around the country have discussed and adopted the proposed eighth principle, we hope our USSB congregation will do so in the fall of 2022. Over the summer you will have opportunities to learn, discuss, and question before we are ready for a congregational vote. Stay tuned for the schedule of upcoming small group meetings in which all voices and points of view can be heard. Please join in; your engagement in this work is vital.

Kathleen Boehm
The worship theme for May is “nurturing beauty” and we think we’ve got a good handle on that in Children’s RE. We’ll begin the month with a May Day celebration and CRE family picnic on May 1. After that we’ll be digging in the dirt to create our RE pollinator garden overlooking the Jefferson Courtyard. We’ll be planting local plants — including narrowleaf milkweed — to attract monarch butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, and other pollinators all while we’re learning about our place in the interdependent web. And we’ll be beautifying a neglected patch of dirt on our campus for all to enjoy. If you’d like to help, contact Charla at charla@ussb.org. We’ll be working on this project on Sunday, May 8 and May 15.

Coming of Age Culmination
It’s hard to believe that our 2022 COA program will be wrapping up in just a few weeks. The good news is this year’s cohort has created a bond that will carry them beyond the culmination of this program. Through games, poetry, personal values exploration, journaling, and deep sharing, they have created strong relationships with each other and their facilitators and mentors. Their fundraising efforts ($1,738.00) and partnering with Trinity Episcopal youth group on a meaningful social justice project has given them a purpose outside of themselves. And their Spirit Quest camp-out in the Sespi Wilderness, spent in personal reflection and exploration, has given them time and space to go deep inside themselves. In May they will be writing their cre-dos and planning for the COA worship service on May 22. Mark your calendars and prepare to be inspired.

How can you join the fun in CRE this Summer?

Summer is right around the corner and we could use your talents and energy in CRE. Summer Sundays are a time when we turn to imagination and play. While we’ll bring back our popular Maker Space Sundays, we’d also like to invite congregants to spend an hour on a Sunday morning sharing a hobby, talent, or special interest with our kids. Do you like to draw or paint, take pictures, build things, do science experiments, write poetry, play board games, work in the garden, sing, go bird watching, or collect rocks, stamps, or anything else? How about sharing that passion with our kids for an hour this summer? Sign up at the RE table in the garden during coffee hour and we’ll talk!

In Faith,
Charla Bregante
Director of Religious Education
charla@ussb.org

Below left: COA and Trinity youth pack up art supplies for children living in a migrant shelter in Mexicali.
Right: Coffee hour is for all ages!
Climate Grief Workshops Continue Through June 15

Join facilitators Dean LaCoe and Lorraine Woodman Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in Parish Hall or on Zoom. A light dinner is served at 5:30 in Parish Hall. Each week the group will explore one of the ten steps to personal resilience and empowerment in a chaotic climate, developed by Good Grief Network. Come for any or all workshops that interest you. Email Dean at deanlacoe@gmail.com for more information.

About Good Grief Network

Good Grief Network is a nonprofit organization that brings people together to metabolize collective grief, eco-anxiety, and other heavy emotions that arise in response to daunting planetary crises.

Using a ten-step approach inspired by the Alcoholics Anonymous model, we run peer-to-peer support groups that help folks recognize, feel, and process their heavy emotions, so that these feelings may be transformed into meaningful action. www.goodgriefnetwork.org/about/

May Outreach Offering
Santa Barbara Audubon Society

For over 50 years our Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS) has been protecting area bird life and habitat, and connecting people with birds through education, conservation, and science.

Education initiatives include Eyes in the Sky, a community education outreach program that presents five native birds of prey, rehabilitated from injuries, to children and adults throughout the greater Santa Barbara area. The birds’ unique stories of survival educate about the impact of human actions on wildlife. Eyes in the Sky presents programs in classrooms, camps, after-school programs, retirement communities, and at community events.

The SBAS Conservation/Science Committee acts locally to advocate for strong protections for birds and bird habitat, with an emphasis on riparian areas and regional open spaces. They meet with local officials and provide expert knowledge, thorough analysis and public comment, and community outreach to protect Santa Barbara area bird life. Other community science initiatives include the Breeding Bird Study and nest box monitoring.

SBAS also offers bird walks and field trips, monthly evening programs, and the opportunity to contribute to research through the annual Christmas Bird Count. For children, they offer an annual Winter Bird Count for Kids.

If you are interested in learning more about the importance of birds, please watch their two short films, Why Are Birds Important? and How to Start Birding at www.santabarbaraaudubon.org/learning-resources.

To learn more about Santa Barbara Audubon Society, including how to get involved, go to www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org or talk to Kathleen Boehm.
Border Compassion Partnership Update
What we are learning about partnership from the humanitarian border caravan effort.

The Unitarian Society and the Justice and Equity Team have been partnering with the Santa Barbara Interfaith Sanctuary Alliance (ISA) for several years now. Ellen Broidy faithfully represents and connects the Unitarian Society with ISA, keeping us updated on how we may partner with integrity to make a difference with our neighbors at the United States–Mexico border.

In May 2021, our congregation joined with a number of other faith communities to contribute to a border caravan that delivered much needed supplies to help relieve human suffering at the border. We responded again in October 2021 when we raised over $2,000 to sponsor another delivery of supplies. The need for these basic supplies has only increased, and this March and April our congregation contributed nearly $3,000 to fund an April 27–28 border relief “Cross-Over.”

Our partner at the border, Border Compassion, is a non-profit, faith-based, grassroots effort to respond to the needs of families who have migrated to the border crossing at Calexico, CA, and Mexicali, Mexico. Founded by Sister Suzanne Jabro, the mission of Border Compassion is to invite faith-communities to cross over the border to offer a compassionate humanitarian response to families living at the Posada del Migrante Shelter, which houses up to 300 people. Mexicali is a border town three hours east of San Diego that is inundated with people fleeing their home countries to escape violence, poverty, and climate disasters. They arrive exhausted, hungry, and with little beside the clothes on their backs. They have endured months of travel only to discover that the border is not as porous, nor the crossing as safe, as they had heard.

Along with the funds our Coming of Age youth raised for children’s art supplies, which were carried across the border as well, the funds you donated went a long way toward helping to defray expenses of the La Cobina Posada Shelter for a full month. These Cross-Over visits allow volunteers to purchase food and provide essential clothing, medicines, and hygiene supplies, as well as gain a transformational and awareness-building experience.

We are planning for our congregation to engage with another Cross-Over in late summer or early fall. If you would like to learn more about these efforts, you can watch a video where Anna DiStefano shares her experience of traveling to the Posada del Migrante Shelter last year (Anna’s seven-minute story is at minute 23–30) at www.facebook.com/isasantabarbara/videos/2138755849619037. In the June Kaleidoscope, John Altman, Deb Karoff, and Anna DiStefano will reflect on their recent experience of the April border Cross-Over.

You can learn more about Border Compassion at www.border-compassion.org.

Nancy Edmundson

Santa Barbara County Offers Free Access to Headspace App

The Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness Help@Hand team joins a statewide collaborative project to offer access to the Headspace application free of charge to those who live or work in Santa Barbara County. Headspace is a computer, phone, and tablet app created with one mission in mind: to improve the health and happiness of the world. Topics within the app include mindfulness, sleeping, and mental health.

Link to free access to Headspace: https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/2dcd3efdf60f42e195cdea9226c9b7e3

Personal Blessing

“Remembering my wonderful mother and the years that have passed.”

From Julie Lopp

To give a Personal Blessing, use our online form at www.ussb.org/personalblessing.
Notified Agenda for Annual Meeting

June 5, 2022 at 11:30 AM on Zoom & in Parish Hall

1. Opening and Call to Order, Chalice Lighting
2. Review of Agenda, Zoom Voting Protocols
3. Approve Agenda, Add New Business if 20% of membership present
4. Affirmation of Covenant, Core Values, Mission, and Ends
5. In Memoriam
6. Congregational Survey
7. Year in Review, Year Ahead
8. Distinguished Service Awards
9. Election of Nominating Committee
10. Election of Board of Trustees
11. Honor Outgoing Board of Trustees Members
12. Installation of Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee
13. Vote to Adopt Fiscal Plan
14. New Business (additional agenda items)
15. Closing
16. Adjournment

Voting Information

Members who have signed the membership book on or before May 5, 2022 and committed to an annual financial contribution are eligible to vote. (Members may also receive ministerial exemption from financial commitment.)

- Absentee ballots will be available on request, call the office at (805) 965-4583 or email eden@ussb.org.
- Members may vote by proxy. Each member attending the meeting may hold one proxy. Proxies should be dated, signed and state the name of the member to carry the proxy. Contact the office if you need a proxy form.
- The quorum for an annual meeting is one-tenth of the membership counted as present, voting by proxy or absentee ballot.
- An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present or accounted for by proxy or absentee ballot is required to amend, revise or repeal these bylaws, but in no case shall the affirmative vote be less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total Society membership.

Official voting membership at meeting notice: 384
Quorum to conduct business: 10% of total membership: 38
Quorum to make additions or deletions from agenda: 20% of total membership: 76
Quorum to amend bylaws: 25% of total membership: 96

All in the Family

Longtime USSB member Jules Zimmer passed away in his home on Saturday, April 9. A memorial service for him will be held in the sanctuary on Friday, May 13 at 2:00 PM and all are invited to attend. A reception will follow in Parish Hall and courtyard. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Environmental Defense Center, Community Environmental Council, and Los Padres ForestWatch.

A full obituary can be found in the Santa Barbara Independent at www.independent.com/2022/04/21/jules-zimmer-1930-2022.
2022–2023 Board of Trustees and Nominating Committee Slate of Candidates

The Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates for the Board of Trustees and for Nominating Committee for 2022–2023.

The Nominating Committee nominates the following candidates to the Board of Trustees:

- **Nathanial Rich** 2022-2025 three-year term
- **Terri Stelzer** 2022-2025 three-year term
- **Lorraine Woodman** 2022-2025 three-year term

The Nominating Committee has received 10 or more signatures in support of the following candidates for the Nominating Committee:

- **John Hartman** 2022-2025 three-year term
- **Onolee Zwicke** 2022-2025 three-year term

This slate of candidates will stand for election in the June 2022 congregational annual meeting. Their profiles are available for your review below.

Lastly, I would like to recognize Mike Gorodezky, Maude Williamson, and Onolee Zwicke of the board of trustees; and Bruce Daniels and Gary Welterlen of the nominating committee, for their service. Thank you for your tireless work in another truly challenging year.

Gary Welterlen, Chair
Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara
Nominating Committee

**Board of Trustees Candidates**

**Nate Rich**

I was born in Pennsylvania but grew up in Texas, where I was raised Catholic and educated in Catholic schools. I attended Texas A&M University, majoring in philosophy and minoring in history. After I graduated in 2000, I spent two years living and working in Austin before I decided to go back to school. I then spent a summer at the University of Virginia in an intensive Tibetan language program, and that fall I lived in a monastery guest house in a small village outside of Kathmandu, Nepal (where I took the GRE during a general strike and applied to graduate school from internet cafes). I moved to Santa Barbara in the fall of 2003 to begin the MA/PhD program in religious studies at UCSB. Stop me if you’ve heard a story like this before, but it was there that I met the woman who became my wife — Reanna Mason, now Reanna Mason Rich — and after living here as a graduate student, there was no way I was ever going to leave willingly (and neither was she). I have an MA and PhD in religious studies, and I am now a research editor for a global non-profit called 84000: Translating the Words of the Buddha. I am also a visiting scholar at UCSB, affiliated with the recently established Buddhist Texts Translation Initiative in the Department of Religious Studies.

I am the husband of Reanna and the father of Luca (8) and Leo (3), both of whom were dedicated by Rev. Julia here at USSB. Reanna and I began attending when she was pregnant with Luca, and we signed the book in January 2014. In the years that we have been members, I have been involved in Connection Circles, both as a participant and as a facilitator. I have also been actively involved in RE: I have been a co-facilitator of the Coming of Age program, an adult advisor for YRUU, and a co-facilitator of an adult RE class on local religious diversity. I have also served one three-year term on the nominating committee. It is a great honor to be of service to this community.

**Terri Stelzer**

I grew up in Seal Beach, CA, and earned a BA in Psychology from UC Irvine. I moved to Santa Barbara in 1980 to attend graduate school at UCSB, where I earned an MA in Speech and Hearing Sciences, and I have lived here ever since. I worked as a Speech and Language Pathologist in several settings in the area until retiring from the Santa Barbara Unified School District last summer.

I was raised a Unitarian, but didn’t start attending USSB until my husband Charlie and I became parents. Both of our daughters, Savannah and Lily, went to preschool at Starr King, and it seemed a natural fit for our family to start attending services. We became members in 2002. Over the years I have taught religious education, served on the membership committee...
and CRE ministry team, and have been a stewardship circle leader, a Sunday team leader, a Freedom Warming Center team leader, and a coffee host. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, hiking, walking my dog, camping, skiing, reading, and making pottery.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Lorraine Woodman**

I received a BA in Anthropology from Pomona College and a PhD in Anthropology from UC Santa Barbara, where I studied what then was called third world development, as well as the relationship between media use and culture. I subsequently began a 30-plus year career managing environmental impact studies, focusing in the latter half on issues involving the scarce water supplies of the West. I am happily retired now and enjoy traveling, photography, serving as a docent at Arroyo Hondo Nature Preserve, sailing, cycling, and playing pickleball, and I am also active in the local chapter of Citizen’s Climate Lobby and the EcoFAITH climate action group.

My husband Craig and I have two sons, and I joined the Unitarian Society shortly before the birth of our older son, about 36 years ago. I taught RE classes when my children were young, and since then have sung in the Chancel and Treble choirs for many years, participated in several trips to the Hopi and Navajo reservations with USSB with adult and high school groups, prepared food for the Warming Center, and am about to be a co-facilitator of an upcoming 10-week Climate Grief and Action Workshop at USSB. I thank you for your consideration.

**Nomination Committee Candidates**

**John Hartman**

I have lived in Santa Barbara for over 20 years, getting a Ph.D. and later working as a lecturer in the Department of Economics at UCSB. During my early years as a member, I was active in the membership ministry. As a member of USSB for over a decade, I have watched my daughters Kasey and Quinn grow up with our RE program over the years, and my wife Kelly and I have helped facilitate the Our Whole Lives programs a few times. I also previously served on the nominating committee from 2016-2019, and would be honored to serve again on the committee again.

**Onolee Zwicke**

I have been honored to serve as board president for the past two years, and as a board member the past six years. As a Unitarian for a decade-plus, my family and I have been members and active participants. When younger, my two daughters were active in CRE and YRUU, and my husband serves on the finance committee. Previously, I served as board treasurer and board secretary, was a member of the CRE committee, budget committee, finance committee, and participated on a Lifespan Director search team. We are a family committed to all aspects of USSB! Now I hope to be elected to the nominating committee.

I have my Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut and have been the owner and CEO of Art Explorers & Terrific Scientific, which provides art, engineering, science, and technology programs to students in elementary and junior high schools for 20-plus years. My prior work history includes being the Director of Staff Training & Organizational Development at UCSB.
Sunday services in-person and online at 10:00 AM

We also livestream on Zoom and Facebook!

Watch online or use your phone to dial in and hear the service live.

To listen to the service on your phone, call 1-669-900-6833 and then enter the Sunday services meeting ID: 960 036 8223#

You may call in starting five minutes before the service begins.

Zoom and Facebook links are sent out in the Friday email, in a special Sunday morning email, and are always available on our website, at www.ussb.org/worship/zoom.

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? We archive every service video on our YouTube channel and on our website at www.ussb.org/worship/archive.