

Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis (UUCD)

February: Love



The Hands, Hearts, Minds Project

Our theme for February is Love; this is an opportunity for us to think about Love in many different ways. We show our love through what we do to support each other, through our caring actions, and through our willingness to learn and understand. This month we can inspire each other by living our love in the world and by sharing stories with each other.

The Hands, Hearts, Minds Project is a chance for us to share stories of our lives as Unitarian Universalists. During coffee hour for three Sundays we invite you to sit down in front of the camera in our sanctuary to answer a question about how you have experienced our values being lived out. You are invited to come in front of the camera with your family, a friend, or by yourself—whatever is the most meaningful for you!

Each week has a theme (taken from our children's chalice lighting) and a question.



January 26th, from 12:30 to 1:30pm: We are the church of the helping hands: When have you helped someone from this congregation? Has anyone helped you? We look forward, this week, to hearing stories about the time you cooked soup for someone, or borrowed a bicycle, or helped with the Interfaith Rotating Winter Shelter- any time you helped someone out or were helped in a way that felt meaningful to you.



February 2nd, from 12:30 to 1:30pm: We are the church of the loving heart: Tell us about a time when you experienced a loving heart, when you really felt loved or loving. We want to know about the encouraging comment that got you through a tough week, or the time you listened to someone who really needed to be heard, or the hug you look forward to each week.



February 9th, from 10:30 to 11:00am: We are the church of the open mind: When have you put yourself in someone else's shoes and learned something new? Many of us hear things at church that cause us to think about something in a new way, and this can also be a place where we meet people who change how we view things just by being themselves. This is the week to share that story of the time you changed your mind about something or someone.

I look forward to seeing you in the Story Booth!

– Caitlin Cotter, Intern and Campus Minister

Worship Services

9:30 & 11:15am



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Feb 2, 9:30 & 11:15am, *What's Needed?*

Josh Searle White; Rev. Beth Banks;

Generosity Journey: Laura Sandage. **11:15am "First"**

Sunday style worship: Children & Youth in leadership roles for first 30 min. Josh's master storytelling appeals to all ages. Then children move to the Bridgehouse for team-building activities. The Generosity Campaign is a natural time to look at future possibilities for our amazing congregation. What would it be like if our guiding principle were not our vision or our plan but this question: "What's needed?" Josh Searle White, Executive Director UU Pacific Central District, gives us a visionary's view of our denomination. He runs popular workshops at General Assembly and is the author of *Magic Wanda's Travel Emporium: Tales of Love, Hate, and Things in Between*.

A Celebration of Beauty, 12:30pm. Our Sunday service will flow into a brief celebration of the art that decorates our social hall. We've invited the artists. Emma Luna's art has decorated our walls since the Social Hall opened, and one of her beautiful pieces will remain. Judy Moores created the banners found throughout the hall, attractively framed UUCD's congregational recognitions, and the UU Principles and Purposes. She also sewed the bench cushions. Recently, a spectacular mural representing the farmland that surrounds us was added above the coffee area. Artwork by both Marjan Kluepfel and Emma Luna are on display at *The Artery* in downtown Davis.



"Hands, Hearts and Minds Project" Focus Question: "We are the church of the loving heart." When have you experienced a loving heart here at UUCD? Cameras roll in the sanctuary at 12:45!

Feb 9, 9:30 & 11:15am, *With This Love, Anything Can be Made*, Rev. Banks; Caitlin Cotter, Worship Associate; Life Journey: Bob Young & past interns. Some live by "love thy neighbor as thyself;" others by "first, do no harm" or "take no more than you need." What if the mightiest word is 'love' – beyond marital, filial, national; love that casts a widening pool of light; love with no need to preempt grievance?"



"Hands, Hearts and Minds Project" Focus Question: "We are the church of the open mind." When have you put yourself in someone else's shoes and learned something new? Cameras roll in the sanctuary at 12:45!

Feb 16, 9:30 & 11:15am, *A Church Beyond Belief*, Rev.

Banks, Caitlin Cotter, Laura Sandage, Nancy Lower. In this extravaganza Sunday we gather together in a celebration of music with Juuliebells—Barbara Meixner, Director—and Sparks Choir—Laura Sandage, Director & Nancy Lower, Music Liturgist. The children will present an original musical composition they prepared with Laura. We'll see photos from *Give Yourself Away Day*, and hear from *The Heart, Hands and Mind Project*, our own UU version of Storycorps.

Our Sunday with Josh Searle White celebrated our larger message in the world; this Sunday celebrates our home congregation. Please bring your pledge card for our ritual of giving. Already sent in your card? There will be a way for you to participate.

3rd Sunday Special Collection: Autism Speaks: "funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for the needs of individuals with autism and their families." Checks: UUCD, memo: Autism.

Feb 24, 9:30 & 11:15am, *Judge Not Lest Ye Be Judged?* UNIQUE Youth Group offers reflections on judgment. We aim to make you stop and think before you judge someone, especially based on something they can't change . . . but we also invite you to find ways to being a little less judgmental of yourselves.

Listen Missed a sermon you'd like to hear? It's available on podcast: www.uudavispodcast.org

Reflect The Committee on Ministry invites UUs in small groups (committees, TIE & fellowship) to make the theme part of their spiritual practice.

"Perhaps it is true that we do not really exist until there is someone there to see us existing, we cannot properly speak until there is someone who can understand what we are saying in essence, we are not wholly alive until we are loved."
– Alain de Botton, *On Love* (Writer, Philosopher UK)

How and when do you feel loved?
How and when do you love others?

Committee on Ministry: Sarah Keith, Karen Naliboff,
Steve Reynolds, Lorraine Visher, Carlena Wike

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Take Action!



February is the Month of Love, the month when we give ourselves away. We can live a generous life every day, but setting aside one day when we do it together serves as a reminder. There's something different about giving together. We are easily reminded of how giving changes both the giver and receiver.

Loving and giving are spiritual practices; we're intentionally bringing them together.

On February 15th and 16th you're invited to wear your "Standing on the Side of Love" shirt (or hat) whether you're participating in one of our giving activities or performing your own. Wash your shirt Saturday night and wear it the Sunday, too!

Saturday, February 15, Give Yourself Away Day: UUs wearing bright yellow "Standing on the Side of Love" gear will really stand out as they plant native grasses along the Arboretum bike path (just south of the new archway of shovels). Those shirts will be perfect at the TROTR farm—where we'll do farm work to support TROTR in connecting horses and people who benefit from therapeutic horseback riding (if you want to work with animals, you'll need to attend orientation on Feb 1). And those bright love-justice shirts will help announce us when we bring cheer and soup to people in our congregation.

Who knows? Maybe our yellow-shirted acts of LOVE will make the news. If someone asks about your shirt, you can tell them, "I'm from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis where we believe in love, so we work together for justice and compassion." That can begin a conversation, and I hope you're ready to tell them more.

Sunday, February 16: Celebrate at Worship! Everyone in the whole church is invited to come together and celebrate.

— Rev. Beth Banks



Life Enriching Your Love: *How do we live as UUs?* Maintaining a committed relationship with the pace of today's life can be difficult. Affirming each other, remembering the central reason for your love, and answering important questions, are often set aside. Join Marriage and Family therapist, Sharon Thompson Wilson, and Rev. Beth Banks as we bring UU theology and Sharon's expertise together for an evening and a day of explore patterns in the relationships of couples and to spend some time (sometimes in community and sometimes done separately) to explore how what you hear applies to your love. ❖ Open to 12 couples, first come basis. The fee covers light breakfast refreshments, lunch and childcare, so all we have to do is bring ourselves and our open hearts to the time to journey together. ❖ Fri, Feb 7, 7:30 – 9pm Sat, Feb 8, 10am – 4pm \$45/ couple. RSVP: re@uudavis.org

World Religions and Cultures in Cinema:

"Arranged" Two women—one Muslim, one Orthodox Jewish—meet at work and discover that they have much in common, including upcoming arranged marriages. 12:30pm, Feb 9, Sanctuary



We will analyze cultural, spiritual, and religious themes, learn to interpret the cinematic elements of character, gender, dialogue, image, *mise en scène*, lighting, and music; identify and critique religious perceptions in film and interpret the cultural significance of each represented world religion and spiritual themes, concerns, concepts, and values.

Facilitator, Maria Jaoudi is professor of the humanities and religious studies at CSU Sacramento, where she teaches courses on world religions and cultures, mysticism, ecology, and film. She is the author of three books on spirituality, a poet and painter. csus.edu/indiv/ljjaoudim