



Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Davis (UUCD)  
Summer Journal –  
July & August



“And so  
with the sunshine and  
the great bursts of leaves  
growing on the trees,  
just as things grow  
in fast movies,  
I had that familiar  
conviction that life  
was beginning over again  
with the summer.”

— F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*



What, if anything, about summer  
offers you a chance for renewal or a  
change in perspective?

Where might it take you in the year  
to come?



The Committee on Ministry  
(Lucas Frerichs, Sarah Keith, Stefan  
Harvey, Steve Reynolds, Susan  
Steinbach, Karen Urbano) invites you  
to continue your spiritual practice of  
reflection throughout summer:



Have you heard the Japanese term,  
Shinrin-yoku, meaning “forest  
bathing”? The idea is to spend time in  
natural areas as preventative  
medicine, such as lowering blood  
pressure and relieving stress. Ask any  
‘Guardian of Our Grounds’ how  
wonderful it is to be out caring for  
our grounds, and you will  
understand. – Kathy Coulter



# Sunday Worship, 10am only

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## Listen

Download or listen online to edited Sunday services at [www.uudavispodcast.org](http://www.uudavispodcast.org)

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**July 5, 10am**, *God Bless Everyone, No Exceptions*; John Ashby; Lee Ann D'Amato, Worship Associate. The 4th of July celebrates the choice Early Americans made to be independent from Britain. Today, what are we celebrating independence FROM? What might we celebrate connection with? *FIRST SUNDAY: Children and youth join first 30 minutes.*

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**July 12, 10am**, *Grateful, Thankful or Just Pleased*; Milton Hildebrand; Karen Klussendorf, Worship Associate. Milt Hildebrand offers one sermon per year. He is a founding member of our congregation, and brings a dry wit and full experience of 97 years of life. Using illustrations and experiences from his life, Milt will speak about the right and wrong ways to give and receive gratefulness and thanks. Music by Eldridge Moores, Virginia Thigpen and Nancy Lower

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**July 19, 10am**, *Who's Fooling Whom?* John Ashby, Suzanne Kimmel, Worship Associate. For the most part, it is a better vision of ourselves that we hold forward for others to see. Who are we fooling when we do this? Are we being dishonest? Are we being merciful to others? Might there be another explanation?

**Special Collection** – Grace in Action. Checks to UUCD, memo GIA. <http://www.grace-in-action.org/>

*Grace in Action is a Christ-centered ministry serving homeless individuals by equipping local churches to provide compassionate care, spiritual companionship, rest and respite, and referrals to local agencies. Our ministry has proven to be an important link between those struggling with homelessness and agency shelter programs. More than sixteen local churches partner with us along with many volunteers and supporters as together we reach out to those in need.*

Donate anytime: <http://tinyurl.com/DonateUUCD>

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**July 26, 10am**, *Having a Voice*, Amber Harris; Alex Lee-Jobe, Worship Associate. Drawing from life experience, Amber talks about how having a voice in society can impact not only the quality of life, but the ability to live life. She connects this to how we, as individuals, can learn to empower our own voices as well as those of others.

*Amber Harris is a leader of our young adult programming. She comes to us from the UU congregation in Ithaca, New York. In her professional life, she empowers the development and success of early stage companies as Director of SARTA's (Sacramento Regional Technology Alliance) CleanStart Program. Amber earned her MBA with a concentration in policy and planning, and BBS in Signed Language Interpreting from The University of New Mexico. She enjoys watercolor painting, hiking, reading, and having coffee with friends in her free time.*

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**August 2, 10am**, *Curiosity's Guide to Puzzles and Mysteries*, Rev. Beth Banks; Karen Klussendorf, Worship Associate. Curiosity has fallen in and out of favor throughout history, sometimes seen as encouraging evil distraction and other times as a pathway to unknown treasures. Scientists and artists refer to it as both pleasure and torment. Today, engaging curiously with life is necessary if we are to live successfully in a cross-cultural, multi-religious world. The first part of Beth's sabbatical was devoted to a leisurely study of curiosity and its gifts. Curious to know more? *FIRST SUNDAY: Children and youth join first 30 minutes.* Ritual to Welcome Adrean Dills, Interim Director of Lifespan Learning  
A reception to welcome Adrean Dills, Interim Director of Lifespan Learning, follows the service.

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**August 9, 10am, *How Are We Asked to Heal the World?*** Rev. Beth Banks; Donna Sachs, Worship Associate. Catholic Trappist monk, Thomas Merton, wrote prolifically in the 1960s about the world from his cloistered monastery. His words continue to give strength to social activists today. The opening of his book, *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*, begins with a quote about the modern violence of overwork. His words apply to today's quick pacing. This sermon isn't simply about the fast life. He challenges us to not be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns. What keeps us strong and renews us when we are trying to change the world? I'll be looking for answers at the June Unitarian Universalist General Assembly, too.

You are invited to a discussion in the Senghas Room following the service.

This service leads into the sermon by our guest next week.

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**August 16, 10am, *The Really Short Elevator Speech*;** Rev. Dr. Lucas Hergert; Rev. Beth Banks, Worship Associate. What is Unitarian Universalism, and why does it matter? This sermon argues for the relevance of our faith for the 21st century, summed up in just a few sentences.

Rev. Lucas will be available for a discussion in the Sengas Room following the service.

*Rev. Dr. Lucas Hergert is the minister of the UU Church in Livermore. A lifelong UU, he holds a Doctor of Ministry in Preaching.*

**TBA: 3rd Sunday Special Collections Nominations** for 2014-15 (due July 31) contact [office@uudavis.org](mailto:office@uudavis.org) or: [http://www.uudavis.org/PDFs/Give\\_SpecialCollectionNominationForm.pdf](http://www.uudavis.org/PDFs/Give_SpecialCollectionNominationForm.pdf)

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**August 23, 10am, *Living the Questions*;** Our Worship Associates: Stacie Frerichs, Alex Lee-Jobe, Donna Sachs, Amethyst McKay, Amanda Caudle, and more. Rainer Maria Rilke wrote, "Be patient toward all that is unresolved in your heart..." This year's Worship Associates will share their thoughts on the questions that are central to their lives. Come and meet the Associates through the reflections that come from their weekend training together.

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**August 30, 10am, *The Simpsons and Religion*;** Dr. Karma Waltonen; Autumn Labbé-Renault, Worship Associate.

*Karma Waltonen has been teaching at UC Davis since 2000. The former President of the Margaret Atwood Society, Karma has a wide variety of interests, most of which are incredibly nerdy (and geeky). She co-authored The Simpsons in the Classroom: Embiggening the Learning Experience with the Wisdom of Springfield. She has published on time travel in Star Trek, the ethics of religious cults in Doctor Who, and asexuality in BBC's Sherlock. She speaks at various ComicCons and at international conferences--most recently, she spoke on The Simpsons in Helsinki, Margaret Atwood at the Modern Language Association Conference, and on a writing assignment she created, at the PCA/ACA conference.*

*Dr. Waltonen (her students call her Dr. Karma) is the editor of Margaret Atwood Studies and The University Writing Program publication, Prized Writing. She is on the editorial board of The Journal of Popular Culture. She is currently editing books on The Simpsons, Atwood and the Apocalypse, and on best practices for composition assignments.*

*In addition to her research on literature, rhetoric, and composition, Karma also writes poetry, creative non-fiction, plays, and jokes for her stand-up routines. Despite her love for comedy, Karma continually tries to kill it through analysis. Her Freshman Seminars on The Simpsons, British Humor, and American Satire have only strengthened its reserves, however. One of her most successful Freshman Seminars, Writing and Performing Stand-Up Comedy, has a spin-off student club (UC Davis Stand-Up), of which she is the faculty adviser. They were invited by the Mondavi Center to perform on picnic day.*

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**September 6, 10am, *Costs of Living*;** Jessica Clay; Lee Ann D'Amato, Worship Associate. Labor Day originated to celebrate the labor movement; it has now evolved to celebrating the end of summer and the chance to finally buy that item at a reduced cost. Let us explore this complex day, its history, and its relevance. We can be reminded of our values and how they pertain to where we spend our money and how much the workers of the world are paid.

*Jessica Clay is a Starr King student who has a special interest in the issue of living wage. An interview with her can be found at <http://www.skism.edu/2015/01/28/i-am-starr-king-an-interview-with-jessica-clay/>*

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**Return to 9:30 & 11:15am Worship Services, Sunday, September 13**

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**New Pastoral Care Programming:**

Over the past ten months, Rev. Cody Sanders has worked with members of the congregation in visioning sessions, pastoral care skills trainings, and one-on-one conversations to more robustly describe the pastoral needs of the congregation moving forward. As Rev. Sanders prepares to depart UUCD at the end of June, a small team of pastoral care lay leaders will work alongside Rev. Banks to continue attending to the pastoral needs of the congregation and will also continue to dream and experiment with new methods for cultivating a community of care at UUCD. The vision for a pastoral care program moving forward is one in which “care” is not the purview of those in pastoral roles alone, but is integrated into the life of the community—more aptly described as “congregational care.” The lay leadership for congregational care is divided into four areas with volunteers covering the responsibilities of each:

**Caring Companions Co-Coordinator:** Jeannette Robertson & Joan Stek

*The Caring Companions Coordinators work collaboratively with the staff ministers, giving specific attention to the cultivation of care in the lives of congregants in non-acute times of need. As “Caring Companions” are not an already-developed team of persons, the Coordinator consults with staff ministers to carefully and thoughtfully recruit a Caring Companion for another congregant in need of companionship or support when the need arises. For example, an elderly congregant who is no longer driving and is often confined to the home may benefit from a periodic checking-in from another congregant or an occasional ride to church. The Coordinators of Caring Companions would recognize this need, in consultation with the Senior Minister, and would then locate a person or persons in the congregation who are willing to dedicate a little time to checking in on this person and ensuring that the person’s relation to the congregation as a community of care remains robust and meaningful.*

**Celebration of Life Co-Coordinator:** Stefan Harvey, Claudia Utt-Smith, & Lorraine Visser

*The CoL Team Coordinators each serve as the point-person for a family experiencing the death of a loved one who are holding a memorial service at UUCD. Each Co-Coordinator is the activator of the Celebration of Life Team for the memorial service for which the Coordinator is responsible for overseeing. The CoL Coordinator meets with the family in grief to help plan all aspects of the memorial service that take place outside of the sanctuary and coordinates the activity of the team for the implementation of memorial service plans. The Coordinators work closely with the Congregational Administrator and the Facilities Manager, as well as with the Senior Minister.*

**Pastoral Associates:** Emily Burstein & Jill Pickett

*The Pastoral Associates listen attentively to the needs that arise within the congregation and, in consultation with the staff ministers, help to connect with parishioners in need of care during specific times of need or acute pastoral crises. The Pastoral Associates provide focused care, support, and follow-up in acute situations of need in consultation with the Senior Minister, rather than long-term support.*

**Programs & Events Coordinator:** Anna Lynn Dayton

*The Program & Events Coordinator is responsible for assessing the continued needs in the congregation for information and opportunities for engagement around topics pertaining to pastoral and congregational care. These may be book discussion groups, after-service workshops on topics like aging, grief, death and dying, senior care, etc., film screenings, guest speakers for special gatherings, or the facilitation of Death Cafes or other interest groups. The Coordinator will work with the Senior Minister to plan these events periodically in the life of the congregation and will draw upon the gifts and talents and abilities of other congregants to bring to fruition programs and events pertaining to pastoral and congregational care.*

**Food:** Janis Nichols

**2015-16 Intern and Campus Minister: Laura Thompson** is very excited to be joining UUCD as the 2015-16 ministerial intern. Laura comes to us from St. Paul, MN where she is currently completing a chaplain residency at a local hospital. She recently completed her MDiv at United Theological Seminary in the Twin Cities with a focus on pastoral care. A former chef, Laura greatly enjoys celebrating and exploring culture, geography and hospitality at a shared table. She considers cooking to be one of her primary spiritual practices. Laura also enjoys music, walks and quality time with her wife and their dog, Pip. Born in Mountain View, Laura lived in California until she was 13 years old. Although she'll miss the lakes and four seasons of Minnesota, she looks forward to a warm and sunny year full of learning, growth and fun.