

Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis (UUCD) Theme Journal – May–Creativity

I have no name, Until you name me. I have no form, Until you shape me.
I don't exist, Until you wake me. I am waiting deep inside you. Touch my spark, And let me light you.
Give me life, And I'll revive you. Who am I? I am creativity!
—from Soul Matters Curriculum

Everywhere you look, our community is bursting with creativity! Creativity is expressed in our congregation and community: from quilts, to worship associates' reflections, to the Sunday flowers, to the usher team that finds creative ways to invite members and guests into our space, and so much more.

In May, the creativity of our campus students will be put to the test in the annual Interfaith Games! The Interfaith Campus Community, consisting of campus ministers from the different student ministries, sponsors and supports the Interfaith Games. Newman Center, last year's winner, is putting together a planning committee with representatives from each Campus Ministry. Each ministry creates a team, a uniform, a flag, and trains to participate in different activities, including human tic-tac-toe and a three-legged race. Each team also submits a trivia questions about their own religious tradition. Points are awarded for winning the physical games, trivia, and the most creative flag. Winning will take heart, spirit, and a whole lot of creativity! Our team shirts are ready, our flag materials are prepped, and our hearts are filled with UU spirit. Wish us luck on May 9!
— Danielle Lindstrom, Intern & Campus Minister



Join Our Team!

For a number of years, I have wondered how we could fully participate in gay pride events, when they regularly happen on Sundays. With our commitment to LGBTQIA issues, UUs should be an enthusiastic presence at these celebrations.

Sunday, May 20, 8am, join me at the *Davis Pride & The Phoenix Coalition Run/Walk* starting downtown in Davis. Dress creatively: rainbow shirt, UU message, spangled tutu, or your regular exercise duds. We'll enjoy the Gay Pride Festival in the cool of the early morning, then attend the 11:15 worship service together for a ritual where Rev Morgan will raise-up UU support for LGBTQIA rights. Rev. Morgan will welcome us in all our sweaty splendor for fun and to celebrate humanity's diversity of gender and sexual orientation.

First: Register for the Run/Walk: <http://mwqdesign.com/davispride/>
Register to: Run, Walk, or offer a donation (Virtual Walker/Runner)

Second: Let us know you're part of the UUCD Team! Sign your name at the Get Involved Tables in the Social Hall (May 6 & 13) or email RevBanks@uudavis.org to tell us if you're registered to Walk, Run, or are supporting the event with a donation (our congregation members will participate in your name).
— Rev. Beth Banks, Senior Minister

❖ www.uudavis.org → Events/Publications → 2017-18, May–Creativity ❖

Creativity takes all shapes. I tend to imagine Picasso's brush strokes or geniuses like Einstein or even Pinterest bloggers. Yet I see "normal" people being creative all the time. Being in relationship takes a lot of creativity! We are always getting creative with our words and deeds to communicate to others both our intent and our expectation. I'm especially awed by parents who can turn difficult situations into learning opportunities. Instead of getting angry about goop on the car seat they asked the kids not to play with, I hear them ask "why do you think it melted like that, and how might we clean it up?" Now that's creative! How might you get creative in your communication to change the mood of the moment? What different way of reacting to the grocery store clerk, or friend, or family member, might open a path of creativity?
— Rev. Morgan McLean, Assistant Minister for Congregational Life

Sunday Worship

Share the Offering: The Bike Campaign receives 1/2 of Jan. Sunday offerings. *Check UUCD; memo: Offering. Making Yolo County a cleaner, healthier, friendlier, more prosperous place through bicycling. Bike Campaign works with city gov.s, county health dept.s, school districts, community service groups; we encourage all ages to ride. Bike Garage: volunteer bike mechanic; buy quality used bikes; learn to ride. Serviceable bike donations greatly appreciated. <https://thebikecampaign.com/>*

May 6, 9:30 & 11:15am, Flower Communion. Dani Lindstrom; Lily Roberts, Worship Associate. Our annual Flower Communion ceremony celebrates the unique beauty of each person and the beautiful ways we share our lives. Each Person Is Asked to Bring a Flower for Our Community Bouquet. Teacher recognition in worship.

12:30pm, All-Church Picnic at the Bee Haven. Bring a lunch; bike (2 miles) or carpool if you can. We'll have a ceremony to present them with our April Share-the-Offering.

May 13, 9:30 & 11:15am, Mother's Day: Sequins of Daring; Rev. Beth Banks; Elli Norris, Worship Associate. Jean-Paul Sartre wrote, "Every day is an opportunity to create and define who we are." Our relationship to the person who is our mother changes over time. This service honors the experience of mothers who emerge to become someone new.

Post -Service Discussion, 12:30pm, Senghas Room, *Mother's Day started as a protest against war destroying families. May 14, we have an opportunity to address issues destroying families today by engaging in activity at the state capital. The UUA encourages UUs to engage with to nation-wide programs such as those addressing Immigration Justice and The Poor People's Campaign. Join Rev. Beth after worship to hear more.*

May 20, 9:30 & 11:15am, Creative Truths; Rev. Morgan McLean; Tamara Range, Worship Associate. From social pleasantries to fake news, we see lots of ways people get creative with the truth. This service explores morality and judgement, and the types of untruths we tell—to ourselves and to others. There seems to be a shared moral code allowing the truth to be stretched if it is deemed "harmless." Is it okay to lie?

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS: May 27, 10am ONLY, *Love Democracy? Think Creatively, Like the Fox;* Rev. Beth Banks. Quilt blessing. Memorial Day Sunday we'll consider the importance of democracy. People in the Armed Services have fought for it and demonstrators take to the streets to support it. Preparation for this service includes, but isn't restricted to, the UUA's 2017-2018 Common Book Read, *Daring Democracy* by Frances Moore Lappe and Adam Eichen. The message is intended to support our inner spiritual life and encourage public actions. Personally, how do you find connection and meaning right now? Politically, when have you witnessed democracy in action?

11:15am-12:15pm, Speed Faithing; Social Hall. Have short conversations with multiple people to learn about each other's spiritual and theological beliefs. Bagels included!

Reflect **The Committee on Ministry** (Louise Bettner, Hiram Jackson, Liz King, Elli Norris, Lisa Oakes, Jeannette Robertson) invites you to make the theme part of your spiritual practice:

"We have no hope of solving our problems without harnessing
the diversity, the energy, and the creativity of all our people." —Roger Wilkins

When have you harnessed the creativity of others to solve problems, or do you always try to create alone?

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