

# The Messenger

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Chico  
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**2018 - 2019 UU Board:** T.W. Theodore, Tom Lewis, Bob Crowe, Courtney Singer, Danetta Cox-Cordova, Dave Keller, and Merrily Stover

**Admin. Asst.** Jane Quan-Bell    **Newsletter Editor:** Bryan Plude

OCTOBER 2019

## SUNDAY PROGRAM SUMMARY

**October 6**  
**"Democracy"**

Rev. Bryan preaching

**October 13**  
**"A Team, Not a Club"**  
Rev. Chris Bell preaching

**October 20**  
**"An Alternative Story"**  
Rev. Bryan preaching

**October 27**  
**Guest Speaker TBD**

*Minister Musings*  
*Rev. Bryan*

Last Friday, September 20, there was a global climate strike, organized by young people inspired by Greta Thunberg. Our Unitarian Universalist President, Susan Frederick-Gray, attended the strike in Washington, D.C. Along with religious leaders worldwide, I signed a letter of support for the climate strike. I attended the local climate strike in downtown Chico. Young people were well represented. Some of them gave impassioned speeches. Unfortunately, there were many more people under 20 than over 20. This disturbed me, as it is our generations that are leaving them a climate mess that only gets worse by the day. In a congregational survey of social justice issues last spring, we marked climate justice as our number one priority. Yet I saw only one other person from UUFC at the strike. I take some responsibility for our lack of representation, as I forgot to have it mentioned in the e-news. But surely many of you knew of this strike, despite the lack of internal publicity.

### Inside This Issue

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### UUFC

*Office Hours*  
Tuesdays & Thursdays  
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Jane Quan-Bell  
(530) 343-1693



*Minister Musings Con't*  
*Rev. Bryan*

At the first Climate Speakers Series talk last week at the Gateway Science Museum, organized by our own Marvey Mueller, I heard that while 75 percent of people in the United States think that humans are causing the catastrophic climate change we are witnessing, 68 percent don't talk about it. It seems it is too overwhelming. I will be giving a number of sermons related to climate change this year. Please work with me to find our voices and how we can take action. We owe this to our children.

In shared ministry,  
Bryan

**Congregational Meeting**  
**October 6**

There will be a **Congregational Meeting on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>** after the service to vote on a final budget for this fiscal year. Please be sure to attend. The proposed revised budget, which shows a small deficit, is available for viewing on the UUFC website, in the member's only section. In addition to the planned use of the Special Fund that many of you pledged to last year to help fund the next four years of ministry, and on recommendation of the Finance Committee, we expect to use Reserve Funds to meet some of the one-time expenses in this challenging and exciting year. If you didn't pledge to the Special Fund or make a 2019-20 pledge and would like to do so now, or if you could make an increase in either pledge, please contact a Finance Committee member (myself Lucy Sperlin, Dennis Daniel, Jan Spangler, TW Theodore), or our new Stewardship Chair David Strohmeyer.

Our bylaws state that we need 40 percent of our membership for a quorum. This equates to 22 members present. While voting can be done by proxy, proxy voters do not count towards the quorum. Child care is available.



# Board Musings

By Merrily Stover

Welcome to October! Since moving to the “North State” several years ago, October has become my favorite month. The heat of summer is past and the bright skies, and a pleasant warmth remain.

Here on the Board, and in our Fellowship, we are getting into our stride for the new year. So much is happening! Individual Board members serve as liaisons to help keep track of activities and guide the groups. Contact us! We encourage/invite everyone—newcomers and members alike—to join in!

**Social Concerns.** Now focused on voter registration, especially in the Hispanic community. Preparation of meals for the Torres shelter; support of housing for the homeless. Liaison: Bob Crowe; 510-867-9975 [bobco@pacbell.net](mailto:bobco@pacbell.net)

**Youth Religious Education.** Meaningful classes for all kids. Outreach to bring in teachers. Liaison: Courtney Singer; [Courtney.boyden@gmail.com](mailto:Courtney.boyden@gmail.com)

**Adult Religious Education.** Sunday morning discussion and sharing. Week-day gatherings. Liaison: Merrily Stover; 530-533-1413; [MI\\_stover@msn.com](mailto:MI_stover@msn.com)

**Worship.** Explore ways of sharing our spiritual message. Support of worship service. (Liaison. Courtney Singer; [Courtney.boyden@gmail.com](mailto:Courtney.boyden@gmail.com))

**Music.** Encourage folks to join the choir! Support of music throughout. Liaison: Dave Keller; 530-892-8830; [dmkeller@csuchico.edu](mailto:dmkeller@csuchico.edu)

**Membership.** Help welcome newcomers to our Fellowship. Explore ways to make folks feel at home. Liaison: T.W. Theodore; 831-236-4504; [tw@thunval.com](mailto:tw@thunval.com)

**Sunshine:** Reach out to those in our Fellowship who may be suffering. Help those who need assistance. Liaison: Tom Lewis; 530-774-3550; [tomaslewis70@gmail.com](mailto:tomaslewis70@gmail.com)

**Finance:** Keep track of income and expenses; planning the budget. Liaison: Lucy Sperlin; 530-879-9369; [lucysperlin8045@comcast.net](mailto:lucysperlin8045@comcast.net)

**Stewardship:** Coordinate pledge drive to help keep the Fellowship solvent. Liaison: T. W. Theodore; 831-236-4504; [tw@thunval.com](mailto:tw@thunval.com)

**Fellowship:** Coordinate fun events for all! Dinners, game nights, social events. Liaison: Dave Keller; 530-892-8830; [dmkeller@csuchico.edu](mailto:dmkeller@csuchico.edu) [tomaslewis70@gmail.com](mailto:tomaslewis70@gmail.com) .



# Board Musings

## Cont'd

**Buildings and Grounds:** Help our place be beautiful and secure. New security system to be implemented. Liaison: Tom Lewis; 530-774-3550; [tomaslewis70@gmail.com](mailto:tomaslewis70@gmail.com)

**Fundraising Events:** Coordinate important money-making activities such as the auction, rummage sale to provide needed support for the Fellowship. Liaison: Dave Keller; 530-892-8830; [dmkeller@csuchico.edu](mailto:dmkeller@csuchico.edu)

**Hospitality.** Coordinate coffee and refreshments after the service; coordinate monthly potluck lunches. Liaison: Merrily Stover; 530-533-1413; [MI\\_stover@msn.com](mailto:MI_stover@msn.com)

**Book Groups.** Enjoy sharing ideas—with no-guilt if you don't finish the book! Liaison: Donetta Cordova; 209-761-6018; [mdcordova@yahoo.com](mailto:mdcordova@yahoo.com)

And this is just the start! There is the men's breakfast, Women's evening group, Men's covenant group; "Wayward Mind" book group, Worship Associates group, and more!

There is surely a space for each person to find a place, to give of themselves, to grow spiritually, to cultivate relationships. And the win/win result? As each person gives, so our beloved community is strengthened and blooms.

Happy October!

### **Sunday 9:30 am -10:15 am Discussion and Sharing Group Begins Again.**

Welcome to the new year! The Sunday Morning Discussion and Sharing group will again meet in the Youth Hall from 9:30 -10:45 each Sunday before the worship service. All are invited.

Brian Kraemer will facilitate self-exploration topics. He will present a topic each week from which the group is free to launch into what really matters to each individual in the moment. The main request is that each person speak from the heart.

Contact Brian Anthony Kraemer (530) 321-3964 (cell)



## Music Program Notes from Mary Collins

### Do YOU have ideas about our UUFC Music Program?

#### Would you like to offer:

- \*\* Special Music at one of our services? Instrumental or vocal?
- \*\* Share a CD or Video Recording of your favorite music?
- \*\* Other ideas how you would like to involve yourself in our Music Program?

### NEW at UUFC Singalongs, JOIN US! prior to Sunday Services, 10:20 am.

Favorite hymns from both hymnals?

Popular oldies: Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Joan Baez, Carole King, etc.?

Recorded contemporary music ?

Contact: **Mary Collins or Dave Keller, with YOUR favorite Singalong music!**

### CHOIR REHEARSALS Mondays from 7 pm to 8:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

**Arrive at 6:45 if you are new for your first Monday**

\*\*We have FUN while we sing together to weave music into our Sunday Services

\*\*We have NEW anthems for men's & women's voices AND women's ensembles!

**No auditions required!** Vocal coaching is offered as needed.

Your willingness to work with other singers and the Director is a plus!

Enter at the side entrance near the stage. We provide Choir Folios.

### Music Schedule for Sundays in October:

**October 6<sup>th</sup> Nick Arteaga, Pianist/ Choir Ensemble**

**October 13<sup>th</sup> Heather Thams, Pianist/Song Leader; Soloist, Victoria Mannah**

**October 20<sup>th</sup> Guitar Ensemble: Pam Sachs, Margaret Aumann, Ruthie Wallace**

**October 27<sup>th</sup> Nick Arteaga, Pianist / Mary Collins, Song leader**

Contact me at [mecdesigns927@yahoo.com](mailto:mecdesigns927@yahoo.com) or call me at 530-570-8826.

In joyful song,  
Mary Collins, Music Director



**WOW! Wild/Wonderful/ Wise Older Women,  
aged 50 and older**

***Coming Together***  
**October 16, 2019, 1:30 to 3:00**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**Art as Play!**  
**Bring your own ideas, and “art” supplies for yourself  
or to share with 6-8 Wise Women!**

**\*\*Gather at 1:00 pm to setup for the meeting\*\***  
Bring savories or sweets if you desire to share.  
Hot water and tea bags supplied.

We take turns leading the monthly meetings. If you have a topic or adventure/road trip you want to suggest/lead for WOW this coming year, put your thinking caps on!

**Projected Topics for 2019-20**

Nov 20: Movie Madness: Bonnie Bennett will lead fun activities related to YOUR Favorite Movies!

Dec 18: Winter Holiday Celebration, Suzan Scott leads us

Jan 15: Politics? (Where might that lead us?)

Feb 21: Sex? (Where shall we travel on this topic)?

Mar 21: Religious Experiences: Childhood to Present?

**What are your ideas?**

FFI: Contact Mary at 530-570-8826, or [mecdesigns927@yahoo.com](mailto:mecdesigns927@yahoo.com)

We could start the year with a Field Trip and meal too! What are your ideas?

# October Worship Services

10:30 am-11:30 am

## **Sunday Service, October 6 at 10:30 AM**

**“Democracy”** Our theme for October is democracy. How is it under threat and how can UUFC make a difference? Worship Leader-Rev. Bryan Plude; Worship Associate – Dave Keller; Piano-Nick Arteaga; Choir Ensemble.

## **Sunday Service, October 13 at 10:30 AM**

**“A Team, Not a Club”** How might we best conceive of living intentionally in spiritual community, towards the goal of our maximum happiness and impact on the world? As a team, not as a club. Belonging to a team is much more fun, interesting and useful than joining a club. And guess what? You’ve already been picked for the starting lineup! Worship Leader-Rev. Chris Bell; Worship Associate – David Strohmeyer; Pianist/Song Leader—Heather Thams; Guest Soloist—Victoria Marsh.

## **Biography**

Rev. Chris Bell has been the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa since 2006, after completing his studies at the Harvard Divinity School. UUCSR was recently named “Best Church” in Sonoma County by the readers of the Bohemian Magazine. Chris has practiced Zen Buddhism with various teachers since his mid-20s. He is active with the North Bay Organizing Project and other social justice organizations. Chris drums with The Unisurfalists, and is a proud father and grandfather.

## **Sunday Service, October 20 at 10:30 AM**

**“An Alternative Story”** On October 14th many states celebrate Columbus Day. A few, California not among them, celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day. What is our local history with the Mechoopda Maidu and how do we begin to make amends? Worship Leader – Rev. Bryan Plude; Worship Associate—Courtney Boyden Singer; UUFC Guitar Ensemble.

## **Sunday Service, October 27 at 10:30 AM**

**TBD.** Worship Leader-TBD; Worship Associate –Susan Bachlor; Pianist-Nick Arteaga; Song Leader-Mary Collins.

# UUFC

## Schedule of Events

### October

- 3 (Thurs) Men's Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. Jack's Coffee Shop
- 10 (Thurs) Men's Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. Jack's Coffee Shop
- 12 (Sat) Prepare and serve meals at Torres Shelter, 4:15-6:30 pm
- 17 (Thurs) Men's Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. Jack's Coffee Shop
- 24 (Tues) Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- 25 (Wed) Wayward Minds Book Group, 7:00 pm. Contact Larry Jendro at [ljendro@msn.com](mailto:ljendro@msn.com)
- 24 (Thurs) - Men's Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. Jack's Coffee Shop
- 31 (Thurs) - Men's Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. Jack's Coffee Shop

### **Truck for Use by UUFC Members**

My Toyota Tundra remains available for the UUFC congregation. No questions asked. Contact Tom Lewis (530-774-3550 or [tomaslewis70@gmail.com](mailto:tomaslewis70@gmail.com) to make arrangements.

### **New Website**

Our new website now has a map component on the Home page to help newcomer's locate us. We also now have a Member's Only drop down in the main menu where members and pledging friends can view the Fellowship's directory and Board minutes. All members and friends have been emailed the password for this restricted area. If you did not receive your password, you may contact Susan Theodore at [susan.theodore2@gmail.com](mailto:susan.theodore2@gmail.com).

## Update from Marie Hubbard

It seems that the Universe has directed me to what may be the last stage of my life. Two weeks down to a whirlwind. First it was several days at my son's home reconnecting with grandchildren and great grands that I had never met.

Then a two hour drive to my brother's home in Madison. Sadly to discover that his illness will prevent him from ever returning home. Picking up the keys to his home to discover the house is serious disrepair and that he is a life long hoarder. It took me three days to clear off the kitchen table and clear a path to the bedroom. On the other hand he has all the cable stations so I can watch all the politics I want in blissful anticipation. I told a good friend who is a baseball fanatic, that politics is my baseball. But before taking a deep breath experiencing that mid-western hospitality like a warm blanket. My neighbor directly across the street, who is an 82 year old Aries and a Democrat political junkie also. She takes me wherever I need to go and checks on me with her cell at least a couple times a day. The other neighbor that mows my brother's massive two acre lawn, brings garden produce daily. But then there is that religion thing. First thing she asked me was to attend the United Methodist Church with her. I was hesitant but could hardly turn her down. I had told her my story about my experience with the UMC. She said "Trust me. You will be surprised."

The building itself is lovely thanks to some rich farmers estates, who probably aren't rich anymore. I was introduced to the pastor, a woman by the name of Donna Goltry. She happens to be LBGQT activist. She works state wide with youth to help them deal in their in their conservative families and their lives. Looking forward to working with her. She also doesn't mind that I am a Unitarian. That's my story for now. Will keep you posted.

For those of you not on Facebook, my email address is Mhubbardarts@gmail.com. For texters, my phone is 530-894-5682.

Marie Hubbard 601 E 3rd St.  
Madison, NE 68748

Blessings to all, Marie. I'll send photos to Dave Keller.

## SECURITY UPDATE- TRAINING SCHEDULED

Our Accularm Security is operational, but we are NOT using it until October. On October 15 we will go "live" using the security pads to arm and disarm the system. **IMPORTANT** Anyone who has or will have access to the keys for our buildings will need to be trained in the procedures of arming and disarming the system with the key pads.

Training dates and times: October 6th at 12 PM  
October 13th at 12 PM

The lock box codes giving access to building keys will be changed and you will be informed before October 15. Please come to the training sessions with your personal 4 digit code. Questions call Tom Lewis. 530-774-3550

## *October Famous UU*

**Béla Viktor János Bartók** 25 March 1881 – 26 September 1945) was a Hungarian composer, pianist, and ethnomusicologist. He is considered one of the most important composers of the 20th century; he and Franz Liszt are regarded as Hungary's greatest composers. Through his collection and analytical study of folk music, he was one of the founders of comparative musicology, which later became ethnomusicology.



## *October UU Humor*



Q: Why did the UU cross the road?

A: To support the chicken in its search for its own path.

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