



UU of SCV

The Flame

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PO Box 800028, Santa Clarita, CA 91380. 661-254-7866

Santa Clarita's Unitarian Universalist Congregation

October, 2023

Theme for October:

Heritage



Some people are your relatives, but others are your ancestors, and you choose the ones you want to have as ancestors. You create yourself out of [their] values.

— Ralph Ellison

Be on the lookout, friends. The ghosts are on their way! After all, you can't talk about heritage without talking about - and encountering - ancestors.

And we're not talking about relatives here. As Ralph Ellison points out, there's a big difference between

relatives and ancestors. Relatives give us our brown eyes and bowed legs; ancestors bestow a legacy. Relatives are those we tell stories about; ancestors call us to carry stories forward. Relatives live on in our DNA; ancestors live in the whispers of our hearts. Our relatives allowed us to be here; our ancestors tell us why we are here.

The difference comes down to values. Values we use to construct not just our stories but ourselves.

Adapted from Soul Matters

Sunday Services

October 1st, 10:30 am

“Unitarians: From Transylvania to America, What Do We Believe”

Rev. Jo Green,
UU of SCV Affiliated
Community Minister and Chaplain



Rev. Jo Green

The theology of the Unitarians from Transylvania has not exactly transformed into the belief system we hold in the United States today.

How did the Transylvanian Unitarians' view God, how do they today, and how does it compare to our view in this country? Does our Unitarian history reflect our belief system today? Let's explore what it is we truly believe.

October 8th

Earlier 10:00 am Start Time

Live from UU Fellowship of Kern County
UUSCV Zoom-In Service at Vibe, 10 am.

“A UU Approach to the Gospel of Saint Mark and the Messianic Secret”

Andy Kendall

A Unitarian Universalist approach to the Gospel of Mark which explores the concept of Jesus' concealed identity as the Messiah. Delve into the layers of Mark's narrative as we unravel the reasons behind Jesus' veiled nature and the implications it holds for our spiritual journeys.

Join us as we contemplate the balance between revelation and mystery, and how it reflects on our own quests for meaning and understanding in a world filled with hidden truths. Sermon is inspired by the scholarship of William Wrede an early 20th century scholar and the contemporary scholarship of Bart Ehrman, who calls the Gospel of Mark his favorite gospel.

DIFFERENT ZOOM LINK FOR ON-LINE ATTENDEES

<https://zoom.us/j/99690779270?pwd=SEV4TEliY2kwU1VhV2NGb1huWjhhZz09>

Meeting ID: 996 9077 9270

Passcode: 65432

There is no pre-service meditation on Sundays when we Zoom into UUFKC's service.

Oct 15th, 10:30 am

“Greening Power of Truth”

Rev. Liz Murphy



Nature has much to teach us. How might Hildegard of Bingen’s spiritual teach of viriditas re-ignite all that’s blossoming in our lives? How might the creative, greening power of truth spur us toward new ways of understanding ourselves and one another? This Sunday we will explore viriditas together.

Rev. Liz Murphy (she/her) is a staff chaplain at the VA Hospital of Loma Linda, CA. She is also an affiliated community minister at Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church in Costa Mesa, CA. Liz graduated from the Claremont School of Theology with a Master of Divinity in 2020. She previously worked as the Interfaith Programs Assistant at the University of Southern California Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, as well as a chaplain intern at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Originally from Pittsburgh, she lives in Monrovia, CA, with her wife, Hilary.

Oct 22nd, 10:30 am

“An Agape Kind of Love”

Chaplain Greg Cline



What we mean when we say that Love is at the center of it all.

Greg recently completed his Masters of Divinity from the Starr King School for the Ministry and the Chaplaincy Institute. Greg is a candidate for preliminary fellowship as a Unitarian Universalist minister and has been ordained as an Interfaith chaplain and minister by the Chaplaincy Institute. Greg has had the privilege of working as intern minister for both UUSCV and Throop UU. Greg is currently serving as a chaplain resident at the California Rehabilitation Center in Los Angeles.

Oct 29th, 10:30 am

“Free Them All”

Jeannie Parent



Immigration detention is an arm of the for-profit prison industry sanctioned by our government and is incarcerating our immigrant friends and neighbors right here in our community. KWESI (Kern Welcoming and Extending Solidarity for Immigrants) is the social justice ministry of UU Fellowship of Kern County (UUFKC), where we live our UU values and principles by accompanying detained individuals and advocating for the abolition of detention. Jeannie Parent will share her journey with KWESI and offer ways you can become involved in this vital ministry.

Fifth Sunday Forum (after the Service) – Jeannie will stay after the service to discuss the topic of immigration and KWESI in greater detail.

Jeannie Parent is a retired professor of English for Multilingual Students at Bakersfield College, and is a long-time advocate of immigrant rights. She is currently serving as president of UUFKC, and she has been coordinator of KWESI, the social justice ministry of UUFKC, since its inception in 2015. KWESI volunteers accompany immigrants in detention at Mesa Verde in Bakersfield and Golden State Annex in McFarland.

Join us, live at our Sunday services ...

Vibe Performing Arts Studio,

Valencia Plaza Shopping Center,

24460 ¼ Lyons Ave

(Near Vincenzo's Pizza)

... and streaming on Zoom (except for services streamed from UU Fellowship of Kern County)

<https://tinyurl.com/ZoomUUSCV>

Or via phone at:

(669) 900-9128

Meeting ID: 3098843973 (use for password also)

“#” for personal ID

For Our Once-a-Month Service Streamed from UUFKC:

Services that are streamed from our partner congregation, UU Fellowship of Kern County, begin at 10:00 am. We gather at Vibe Performing Arts Studio to light our own chalice and watch the sermon together.

For those watching from home, a special streaming URL is provided (which changes for each service) – see service write-up above for the special URL.

In Memorium

Dottie Healey



Dottie Healey

It is with great sadness that we announce that long-time UU of SCV member Dottie Healey passed away on September 10th. Dottie has been a dear and treasured part of our UU of SCV family for many years, since she joined as a member in 2005, although she was not able to attend services very often in recent years.

Dottie opened her home for opportunities to meet the minister and orient newcomers to our UU faith. She also sang in the choir for a long time. Dottie was 93.

A memorial service will be at 3:00 pm on October 14th at Neighborhood UU Church, 301 N. Orange Grove in Pasadena.



Dottie at Luminescence candle vigil

This Month's Activities

Poets & Writers Group



The Poets and Writers group has decided to offer a sample of some of our writers' work. This month, features a poem by John Cooper.

John and his wife Susan were members of UU of SCV until they moved to the Bay Area to be closer to family. They remain friends of the congregation and an integral part of the Poets and Writers group.

The Poets and Writers group has decided to go **on hiatus until February 2024**. Please contact Beth Jenkins or Glenda Nowakowski for more information, or if you are interested in joining when we start up again.

Leftovers

There was a photo and a drawing in a magazine, it was about a finding in a cave inhabited by the earliest humans. On the cave wall were handprints outlined in red or black dust. The drawing illustrated that these ancient people would press their hands against the cave wall and then blow pigment at the hand to create the outline.

I saw a newspaper article that stated that a tourist had carved initials in the wall of the Colosseum in Rome with a small chisel. He chiseled, "Ivan + Haley '23"

Shortly after moving here, I noticed that our eighty-eight-year old neighbor and his seventy-five-year old girl friend had planted a tree in their backyard.

I write poems and put them in folders in my file cabinet. The poems, the tree, the handprints, the vandalism; how are they connected? I think they all say the same thing. "I was here." Not for long, but long enough to have something of me left. A left over.

No one wants there to be no evidence of their existence: no clues, no fingerprints, no footprint in the mud under the window. We want to leave something of us, good or bad.

When the teacher in the fourth grade demanded to know why I had carved my initials (with a pocketknife

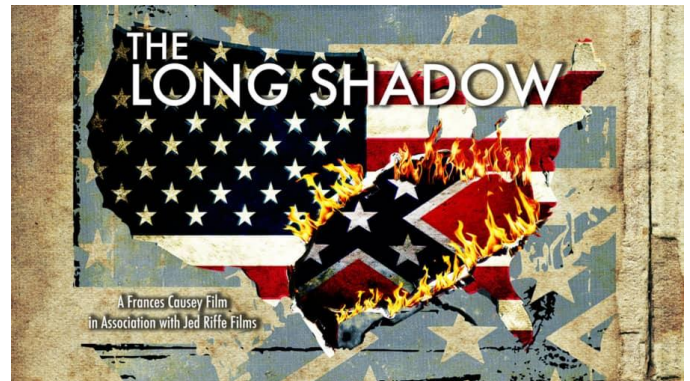
I had won for perfect Sunday school attendance) into the top of my desk, I didn't have an answer. Now I know.

"I was here."

John Cooper
July, 2023

Film Night

SEJ Team,
Submitted by Glenda Nowakowski



SEJ is once again having film night. Documentaries, biographies, novels, and more will be shown at the home of Suzie Rizzo. **Please join us at 6:00 pm for conversation and food. The film will start at 7:00 pm.** Please bring finger foods to share, vegan and vegetarian preferred. Please contact Suzie at baroness 1 @ sbcglobal.net if you have any questions.

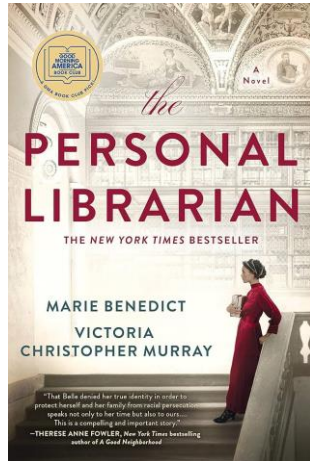
The film for **October 13th** is a documentary called, "The Long Shadow." The film jacket states, "In this masterful documentary, the filmmakers, both white, privileged daughters of the South, passionately seek the hidden truth and the untold stories of how America — guided by the South's powerful political influence—steadily, deliberately and at times secretly, established white privilege in our institutions, laws, culture and economy. Please join us for this provocative film.

The film for the following month, held on November 10th, will be, "Inequality for All."

Book Club

Suzie Rizzo

This is a welcoming and joyful group of readers who love to share their thoughts on the selections chosen. Everyone's presence is encouraged. This group meets the second Wednesday of each month. We will meet at **6:00 pm** at the home of Lois Linnert.



Please bring a dish to share and a beverage of your choice, as well as your thoughts and your critique.

UUSCV's Covid Policy is followed.

The book for **October 11th** is "Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Chespher Murray. The book jacket says this is a remarkable novel about J. P. Morgan's personal librarian, Belle da Costa Greene, the Black American woman who was forced to hide her true identity and pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation.

Please join us for a lively discussion.

The book for November 8 is "Search," by Michelle Huneven.

Contact Suzie Rizzo (baroness1@sbcglobal.net) or Marianne Bakic (mariannebakic@icloud.com) if you have any questions.

Bend the Arc

Lou Paparozzi



Our next Bend the Arc meeting will be on Wednesday, **October 18th** at Suzie Rizzo's home. **Socializing 6:00 to 6:30 pm; Discussion 6:30 to 7:30 pm.** Join us for an informed, respectful, and lively examination of some of the topics of the day for discussion of local, national and world events.

Please bring: Finger Food and Topics for Discussion

Contact Lou Paparozzi for the location and any additional information.

Open Topics Discussion Group

Barbara McCoy & Lois Linnert



Do you like to talk? Do you like to express your ideas? If so, come to the Open Topics Discussion Group. We meet on the 4th Monday of each month at the home of Lois Linnert. Time: **6:00 pm.**

Topic for October : Name up to three people you would like to have dinner with and why!

Bring food to share!

Questions: Contact Barbara McCoy
bmccoy1@socal.rr.com or call Lois Linnert
at 661-299-5393.

Drum Circle

Beth Jenkins



We are very excited to be resuming our monthly Drum Circle, on the first Friday evening every month, **7 pm** – so this month that will be on **October 6th**. No experience necessary, and our Drum Circle leader Burl Bolerjack brings a great deal of drums and other percussion instruments from which to choose. This is a meditative Drum Circle, and includes a brief "check-in" followed by our first of usually three sets of drumming started by Burl providing a basic beat. It is a wonderful experience and newcomers are very welcome!

This will be at the home of Beth Jenkins. If you will be attending, it is very important to RSVP by Thursday night the night before to Beth at newbethj@yahoo.com. You may contact her at that same email address with any questions. Burl drives a significant distance, and we want to make sure we have enough drummers! Note: a donation to support Burl's transportation cost is much appreciated but not required.

Game Nights

Beth Jenkins



In-person Game Nights will occur on the 3rd Friday of each month, at the home of Beth Jenkins. We'd love to have you join us for a relaxing potluck followed by playing mostly word games.

Our in-person Game Night for October will be on **Friday 10/20, 7:00 pm**. If you will be attending, please RSVP to Beth at newbethj@yahoo.com. It is helpful if you can indicate what appetizer dessert or other food item you will be bringing.

Our monthly ZOOM Game Nights will be occurring now on only one Saturday a month. This may vary each month, so please contact Beth at newbethj@yahoo.com to find out the specific date for October.

Friday Meditations on Zoom

Barbara Wampole

Please feel free to just drop in. No experience is necessary. It's simple. If you'd like to join us to share simple sitting meditation and mindfulness practices, we continue to have a unique opportunity to use Zoom since we began sheltering at home.

Our friends at UU Fellowship of Kern County are welcome to join us for Meditation!

Every Friday from 11 am to Noon. If you'd like to join us, please contact Barbara Wampole. [Connect with the UU of SCV Zoom](#)

Save the Date November 18th for Harvest Dinner

We have reserved a location the evening of Saturday, Nov 18th for UUSCV Harvest Dinner. However, it has not been planned yet, and will only happen with volunteers willing and able to put it together. Please contact any Board member if you can be part of the team.

More details will be sent out as the date gets closer.

Social & Environmental Justice

News from our Social & Environmental Justice (SEJ) Team

Louise Klatt & Glenda Nowakowski

PFLAG – The Pride picnic will be held on October 15 from 1 to 5 pm at Rioux Park in Stevenson Ranch.

Food Pantry – The food pantry needs food and personal care items. They also accept monetary donations.

Postcard Table – Five postcards were written at the last session, and some people took some to complete at home. The next postcard table will be on October 8 in the annex between the end of the service and the beginning of the SEJT meeting. Join us and let your elected officials know what your concerns are.

Movie Night – The return of Movie Night was a success, with about 8 people attending. They watched a documentary about the life of musician Pete Seeger. The next Movie Night will be on October 6. Dinner will be at 6 pm, and the movie will start at 7 pm. The movie will be “The Long Shadow,” about the lasting effects of slavery in the United States.

Mental Health – Barbara Wilson sent an email describing the ways in which funding from the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act is being used to make schools safer from violence and make mental health care more accessible to people affected by school violence.

Domestic Violence – The Purple Palooza 5k walk will be held on Saturday, October 14 at the Child and Family Center. For more information, see the article in this month’s Flame.

Fifth Sunday – The Fifth Sunday presentation will be held on October 29th, after the service. In addition to delivering the faith message in the service, Jeannie Parent from UUFKC will be presenting about the Kern County congregation’s social justice activities, including immigration and aiding people detained in ICE custody.

Grandmothers for Peace – Planning a vigil for Sunday, Oct 1, 3:00 pm at the corner of McBean and Valencia Blvds (the Facey Medical Center parking lot). Invite a friend!

The next SEJT meeting will be on **October 8th at 12:00 pm** at Vibe Performing Arts and also via Zoom.

Annual Purple Palooza 5k Walk on Oct 14th to End Domestic Violence!

Wear your UU of SCV T-shirt and we can walk together as a team. Contact Louise at louisepell@yahoo.com if you are interested in walking with her on the **UU of SCV team**. Funds raised are critical to support Child & Family Center’s Domestic Violence Program which provides domestic violence services for individuals who are in abusive relationships and their children. Our services are free and include safety, shelter and support for survivors. Child & Family Center is the only Domestic Violence Shelter in the Santa Clarita Valley

Adults – \$40 registration fee

Teens – \$20 registration fee

Kids under 12 – \$10

Pup-a-Palooza 5k – Free for pets

Includes Pancake Breakfast, Medal and Swag Bag.

Click here for registration [Purple Palooza Registration - Child Family Center](#)

Event Timeline

7:30 am – Registration and Pancake Breakfast begins

8:15 am – Awards, Warmup and Survivor Story

8:45 am – Walk Begins

9:45 – 10:30 am – After-walk celebration and medals awarded

Location:

Child & Family Center

21545 Centre Pointe Pkwy

Santa Clarita, CA 91350

Parking

Parking is available at lots adjacent to the Center, and will be marked with signage.



The poster for the Purple Palooza 5K Color Walk features a purple background. At the top left is the Child & Family Center logo. The main title 'Purple Palooza' is in large white letters, with 'WALK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE' below it. It says 'Presented by: hello SUBARU'. A circular photo shows a woman in a white t-shirt with 'Purple Palooza' on it, waving. Below the photo, it says 'JOIN THE WALK OR SUPPORT A TEAM 5K COLOR WALK' and '21545 CENTRE POINTE PKWY, SANTA CLARITA'. A table shows the event on Saturday, October 14, from 7:30 AM to 10:30 AM, with the walk beginning at 8:45 AM. A QR code is also present. At the bottom, there's a section for 'PUP-A-PALOOZA' featuring a photo of a dog and text about bringing dogs to join the fun, including vendor booths, a pet parade, and more. It also mentions registration and sponsorships available at childfamilycenter.org.

Purple Palooza
WALK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Presented by: **hello** SUBARU
JOIN THE WALK OR SUPPORT A TEAM
5K COLOR WALK
21545 CENTRE POINTE PKWY, SANTA CLARITA

7:30 AM TO 10:30 AM	SATURDAY OCTOBER 14	WALK BEGINS 8:45AM	
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PUP-A-PALOOZA
BRING YOUR DOG TO JOIN THE FUN
PUP-A-PALOOZA VENDOR BOOTHS,
PET PARADE, AND MORE!
REGISTRATION & SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE AT
CHILD FAMILY CENTER.ORG

Church Workings

Board of Trustees

Highlights

Carmela Camp

- The Board is considering the suggestion to have a Harvest Dinner, but with entertainment instead of auction items (unlike our past Harvest Dinners).
- The Boards of the Santa Clarita and Kern County congregations had a joint meeting via Zoom on August 19th to explore how to foster collaboration between the congregations. The next joint meeting of the Boards will be on Saturday, **November 4th at 1 pm via Zoom.**
- The October Board meeting will be on **Sunday, October 15th at 5:30 p.m.**

Board Officers

President - *unfilled*

Vice President - Rev. Dr. Ken Brown

Co-Treasurer - Eric Klatt

Co-Treasurer – Chris Hankla

Secretary - Carmela Camp

Member-at-Large - Rick Kamlet

Member-at-Large - Gordon Uppman

Member-at-Large – Diane Lin

Pastoral Care

Your UU of SCV Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team serves those in our congregation needing support. Current team members are Lucy Bates, Diane Lin, Barbara McCoy, and Ingrid

Van Dorn. If you are interested in joining us, we can always use the help. Or maybe you could be one of our “helping hands people” for those occasions when we need extra help.

The following is our mission statement:

The Pastoral Care Team is an extension of the Minister’s own pastoral care presence. This care is offered with strict confidentiality. Pastoral care is available to those experiencing illness, injury, grief, loneliness, or an unexpected emergency. Team members may provide help with meals, transportation, phone calls, visits, and errands.

During this time without a minister - Remember we are here to help should you need it. And if needed we can connect you with a minister.

Primary contact is Barbara McCoy – 818 438-8351.

Membership

Membership Team

Birthdays

Mirna Sawyer	10/12
Karen Hatcher	10/13
Mary Tassone	10/19
Dru Hiller	10/23
Barbara Wilson	10/27
Binah Sawyer	10/29

Membership Anniversaries

Mark Urbach	10/20/2019
Mary Tassone	10/21/2021
Pete Tassone	10/21/2021

Gratitudes

Membership Team



To **Chris** and **Ken** ... for presenting September sermons!

To **Bob, Ingrid, Tommie, and Louise** ... for serving as pulpit hosts during September services!

To **Lois Linnert** for hosting the Book Club and Open Topics Discussion groups at her house each month!

To **Suzie Rizzo** for all the events she hosts at her home!

To **Rick** and **Glenda** ... for routinely opening and securing our blessed worship space!

To **Kevin** and **Eric** ... for doing great jobs as tech hosts in September!

To **Scott** and **Monica** ... for beautiful music in September!

To **Lucy** ... for altar set-ups in September!

To **Beth** ... for hosting Game Nights and Drum Circle!

To **Glenda** and **Beth** ... for coordinating the Poets and Writers group!

To **Suzie** and **Marianne** ... for coordinating and **Lois** for hosting Book Club!

To **Lou** ... for coordinating and **Suzie** for hosting Bend the Arc!

To **Barbara McC** and **Lois** ... for coordinating and hosting the Open Topics Discussion group!

To **Barbara Wa** ... for coordinating weekly Meditations!

CALENDAR

(Events and activities may change. Check the Friday weekly announcement emails for updates.)

Meditation – Every Friday at 11 am (to noon),
Zoom (see article)

Sunday

- 1** Sunday Service, 10:30 am
Unitarians: From Transylvania to America, What Do We Believe?
Rev. Jo Green

- 6** **Drum Circle**, 7:00 pm, rsvp to Beth
- 11** **Book Club**, 6:00 pm, Lois Linnert's home
- 13** **Film Night**, Suzie Rizzo's home
6:00 pm for food and conversation,
7:00 pm for movie
- 14** **Purple Palooza Walk to End Domestic Violence**, 7:30 – 10:30 am, UUSCV team,
see article and flyer for details.

Sunday

- 8** **IMPORTANT:**
Different Start Time: 10:00 am
Different Zoom Link for On-Line

Sunday Service, 10:00 am
A UU Approach to the Gospel of Saint Mark and Messianic Secret
Andy Kendall

Social & Environmental Justice Team
12 noon, at Vibe and on Zoom

Sunday

- 15** Sunday Service, 10:30 am
Greening Power of Truth
Rev. Liz Murphy

Board Meeting, 5:30 pm, Zoom

- 18** **Bend the Arc**, Suzie Rizzo's home
6:00 pm socializing
6:30 to 7:30 pm discussion
- 20** **Game Night (In-Person)**, 7:00 pm,
Beth Jenkin's home
- 23** **Open Topics Discussion Group**,
6:00 pm, Lois Linnert's home

Sunday

- 22** Sunday Service, 10:30 am
An Agape Kind of Love
Chaplain Greg Cline

Sunday

- 29** Sunday Service, 10:30 am
Free Them All
Jeannie Parent

Mark Your Calendar

Nov 18 – Harvest Dinner (details tba)

Snapshots

UUSCV Excursion to Bakersfield to Meet the UUFKC Congregation and Attend a Concert



UUSCV Team at SCV River Rally Cleanup & Environmental Expo



Sunday Services

Sept 3rd – Chris Hankla
“Could We Welcome a Trans God?”
(Written by Rev. Gretchen Haley)



Sept 10th – Chaplain Joshua Berg
“What Would You Sacrifice? A Humanist Minister Explores the Binding of Isaac”
(Streamed from UUFKC)



**Sept 17th – Rev. Dr. Ken Brown &
Tommie O’Sullivan**
“The Times They Are A Changing”
(Streamed to UUFKC)



**Sept 24th – Harlow Robinson &
Robert Holley**
“A Journey to Faith”

