

# **The Sum of Our Parts**



Sunday, September 20, 2020, 10:50 AM  
First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



**Order of Service**  
**Sunday, September 20, 2020**  
**10:50 AM to 12:15 PM**

Livestreamed at <http://www.youtube.com/c/UUSFMedia>

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Prelude

*Wake Now My Senses*  
*Morning So Fair to See*

Reiko Oda Lane, organist  
Paul Manz  
Alice Jordan

Opening and Welcome

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

Hymn 389

*Gathered Here*

GATHERING CHANT

VanNessa Hulme, Brielle Marina Neilson, Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, song leaders

[\(CLICK HERE OR SCROLL DOWN TO PAGE 6 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Unison Chalice Lighting

Meg McGuire, Ministerial Intern

We light this chalice for the light of truth,  
the warmth of love,  
and the fire of commitment.  
We light this symbol of our faith  
as we gather together.

Invitations

Dennis Adams, Worship Associate

## Meditation on Breathing

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.  
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.

Covenant

Dennis Adams

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its prayer.  
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in freedom, and to help one another.

## Doxology

TALLIS' CANON



From all that dwell be - low the skies; let songs of hope and  
De to - dos ba - jo el gran sol; sur - ja, es - pe - ran - za

5  
faith a - rise; Let peace, good - will on earth be sung through  
fé, a - mor; ver - dad, y be - lle - za can - tan - do, de

8  
ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue.  
ca - da tie - rra, ca - da voz. A - men.

## Ritual of Remembrance and Commitment

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

## Spoken and Silent Meditation

Meg McGuire

Music VanNessa Hulme, Brielle Marina Neilson, Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, soloists  
The Twenty-third Psalm Bobby McFerrin

Reflection

Dennis Adams

Offertory

[The offering this week will be taken to support St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church in the rebuilding after their fire this week.](#)



Music

*O Come, You Longing Thirsty Souls*

Reiko Oda Lane, organist  
Richard Purvis

Reading “The Task of Religious Community” Mark Morrison-Reed

Dennis Adams

Music VanNessa Hulme, Brielle Marina Neilson, Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, soloists  
*Esto les Digo* Kinley Lange

*Where two or three are gathered in My name, there will I be also.*

Sermon

"The Sum of Our Parts"

Meg McGuire

Hymn 318

*We Will Be One*

FINLANDIA

VanNessa Hulme, Brielle Marina Neilson, Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, song leaders

[\(CLICK HERE OR SCROLL DOWN TO PAGES 7 & 8 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Benediction

Postlude

*Old 100th Psalm Tune*

Reiko Oda Lane, organist  
Mark Thewes



# PARTICIPANTS

## **Service Notes**

Meg McGuire, Ministerial Intern  
Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister  
Dennis Adams, Worship Associate

## **Technology**

Jonathan Silk, livestream sound; Eric Shackelford, camera; SJ Ong, camera;  
Joe Chapot, social media; Alex Darr, remote zoom; Thomas Brown, sexton

## **Musicians**

Reiko Oda Lane, organist; VanNessa Hulme, Brielle Marina Neilson,  
Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, soloists



## IN MEMORIAM: Rev. David Pettee (1957-2020)



Ordained at UUSF in 1994, David served our congregation as an Affiliated Community Minister doing hospice ministry for five years. For two decades, he then served Unitarian Universalism overseeing ministerial education and credentialing. He died of cancer on September 12, facing his own end with grace, realism and equanimity.

(For more about Rev. Pettee, [click here](#))

A seventh-generation Unitarian Universalist, David graduated from Ithaca College, from Boston University with an M.S.W., and from Starr King School for the Ministry in 1993. During his first year in seminary, he walked from Los Angeles to New York on the Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament. That effort earned a nomination for the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize. The next year he went to Ukraine as part of a citizen diplomacy exchange. In 1996, he was one of thirty-six

religious leaders who joined respondents in supporting two physician-assisted suicide cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

An avid birder, David agreed with UU ornithologist/theologian Charles Hartshorne that not all birdsong can be accounted for by mating calls or claiming territory for feeding; some is simply for the joy of being alive. He spoke on NPR in July about finding peace in troubled times ([click here](#)) He treasured the two daughters he raised with his wife, Mindy: Hannah and Sophie.

Having taken early retirement due to his cancer, he was hoping to complete a biography of a neglected Unitarian minister, John Turner Sargent (1807-1877), a minister-at-large to the poor of Boston, courageous in working for the abolition of slavery and for women's rights. He knew that reassessing our history would include not only exemplary figures, but also hard truths about our forebears complicity in slavery and oppression. Yet he recommended telling them to our own children. ([click here](#))

Hundreds of colleagues whom he helped to mentor into ministry, and others who saw his work, have joined in praising his patience, kindness, caring, self-deprecation, and wisdom. Even as we acknowledged his death by extinguishing a living flame on our chancel, may light perpetual now shine upon him.

**The Society for Community Work** dedicates the flowers on the chancel today to David's memory.


**Rev. John Buehrens**

# Gathered Here

389


$\text{♩} = 108$

①




Gath - ered here in the mys-tery of the hour.

②



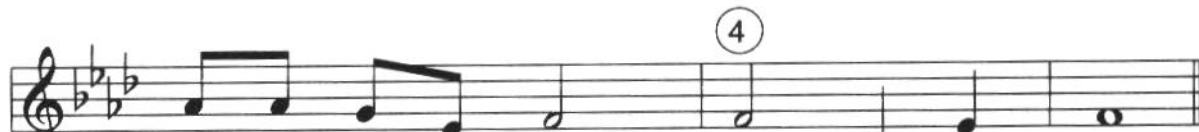
Gath-ered here in one strong bod - y.

③



Gath - ered here in the

④



strug - gle and the power. Spir - it, draw near.

Words & music: Philip A. Porter, 1953– , © 1991 Philip A. Porter

GATHERING CHANT  
Irregular

[BACK TO PAGE 1 \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

## Get Connected!

[www.uusf.org](http://www.uusf.org)

[Subscribe to the Complete Service Podcast here](#)

[Subscribe to the Sermon-only Podcast here](#)

[Listen to our audio Worship Archives here](#)

[View our YouTube videos here](#)

[Read our Newsletters here](#)

$\text{♩} = 69$

1. We would be one as now we join in sing-ing  
2. We would be one in build-ing for to-mor-row

our hymn of love, to pledge our-selves a-new  
a no-bler world than we have known to-day.

to that high cause of great-er un-der-stand-ing  
We would be one in search-ing for that mean-ing

of who we are, and what in us is true.  
which binds our hearts and points us on our way.

⊕ Words: Samuel Anthony Wright, 1919–  
Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957, arr. from *The Hymnal*, 1933,  
© 1933, renewed 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

FINLANDIA  
11.10.11.10.11.10.

We would be one in liv - ing for each oth - er  
As one, we pledge our - selves to great - er ser - vice,  
to show to all a new com - mu - ni - ty.  
with love and jus - tice, strive to make us free.

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[Click Here to Watch Last Weeks Worship Service](#)

10:50 AM SUNDAY



# What's Coming Up? Ways to Connect in These Times



**Virtual Coffee Hour:** Starts at 12:15 PM

Join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/725737157>

Meeting ID: 725 737 157

Dial by Phone: +1-669-900-6833 (San Jose)

## Wish Guidance on Using Zoom?

There are a variety of ways you can learn how to connect through Zoom. The Church has prepared a Guide that explains the Zoom system, and all the basics you need to know in using the system. To access the Guide, [click here](#). You can also access brief on-line tutorials on Zoom To see an example of these tutorials (on how to join a Zoom meeting) [click here](#).

During these times we want you to have our email information handy. Please reach out to your ministers for any reason -- you are having a hard time (or know someone who is); you have a great idea for our new version of shared life in these times (or know someone with skills we could use in this chapter of life together); and because you don't know who to call about what's on your mind. Keep these handy:

Please contact Rev. Alyson Jacks ([ajacks@uusf.org](mailto:ajacks@uusf.org)) or Vanessa Southern ([vrsouthern@uusf.org](mailto:vrsouthern@uusf.org))

In spite of all the COVID-19 restrictions and the Zooming of church activities and groups, various members of the church community continue offering Pastoral Care to UUSF congregants. [The Lay Chaplains](#) (Jan Oringer, Liz Strand, Gino Fortunato, Linda Harris, and Marty Vanderlaan) have been joined this Summer by retired ministers Margot Campbell-Gross and John Buehrens.

To contact this team, send an email to [chaplains@uusf.org](mailto:chaplains@uusf.org) or telephone one of the lay chaplains. We will respond to your request and connect you to someone who can help. In providing care we often rely on a network of UUSF volunteers who have indicated they are available to help other members of the congregation. We wish to express our deep appreciation for the help of these volunteers.

# SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

During these challenging times, many of us are looking for a way to find connection within the congregation and a way to have thought conversations around spirituality and life's journey.

\*\*\*\*\*Sign-up by Monday, September 28 ([click here](#))\*\*\*\*\*

The Small Group Ministries program is an excellent way to do that. You can sign up for the next series that runs from the first week of October through May now through the end of September. The groups meet for 2 hours every other week with groups of 10 people. Initial sessions will meet virtually through Zoom and will transition to in person meetings when it is possible to do that safely at the church. You can also participate by phone.

Bobbi Kovac, Co-Coordinator of Small Group Ministries, shares why the program has been meaningful to her:

“I have participated in the Small Group Ministry (SGM) for the last three years as a member, a co-facilitator, and co-coordinator.

“It has been my privilege to meet through these years, inspiring and personable individuals with a commitment to the holding of others, in compassion and mutuality.

“SGM allows for one to have a secure space within a group, to be free to be vulnerable and share in the discovery and exploration of current ideas in philosophical trends, intercultural connections, our relationships with each other and with our planet, and to serve as a host for our infinitely diversified, human interests.

“The group process enables us to open to and experience uplifting affirmational thoughts, poetry writings, musical and artistic pieces. This serves to strengthen remembering our connection to our deeper selves and our life's purpose.

“Finally, SGM offers us a cherished time, through two meetings each month, to broach our illusory walls in order to evolve in our own awakening, with a luminous heart.”

To sign up for the upcoming Small Group Ministries series, [follow this link](#) or contact Small Group Ministry coordinators, **Barbara Kovac** (415-370-9766), or **Gregg Biggs** (415-505-4690) or through [sgm@uusf.org](mailto:sgm@uusf.org)

[SIGN-UP HERE](#)



**Humanists and Non-Theists**

## **Reforming Policing**

**Sunday, September 20, 1PM**

**(New ZOOM links every week)**

As a result of the police killing of George Floyd and numerous other African-Americans, the impetus for changing the police has gained steam.

We will review efforts underway both nationally and locally to bring these changes about. Among the topics covered will be a review of the George Floyd bill passed by the House of Representatives and reforms that District Attorney Boudin has instituted in San Francisco.

**Please join us for this Zoom meeting using the link below:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82171829459?pwd=NG1tbzNHMGVCT0QwQWhMV0xEOHhQUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 821 7182 9459

**Passcode:** 054250

**One tap mobile**

+16699006833,,82171829459#,,,,,0#,,054250# US (San Jose)

**Dial by your location**

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

**Find your local number:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82171829459?pwd=NG1tbzNHMGVCT0QwQWhMV0xEOHhQUT09>

**Minister's Book Group: September**  
**Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern**  
**"Girl, Woman, Other" by Geraldine Evaristo**

**Dates: Wednesday, 9/23, 6:30-8 PM;**  
**Thursday, 9/24, noon-1:30 PM**

This book by British writer, Geraldine Evaristo, is a novel and winner of the Booker Prize for 2019. Each chapter is from the perspective of 12 different character, all interwoven, most women of color, in an amazing journey through and with all these very different lives and perspectives It's a tour de force of creative imagination.

[Register Here](#)



**Sumner's Summer Offerings**  
**With Music Director Dr. Mark Sumner**

**Mondays and Thursday**  
**7:00 to 8:30 pm**

**For the Zoom link and a schedule of Offerings email Mark at [sngwtme@gmail.com](mailto:sngwtme@gmail.com)**

Join me Monday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30 PM for weekly Zoom singing exercises! Through late August I am covering a variety of musical areas some specific and others quite broad. The hope is there is something of interest at each session AND, upon cursory review, something that will draw YOU in!

For those having Zoom fatigue these activities involve you in ways that should minimize those effects. Judging from initial reactions, this may very well continue into the Fall so keep your eye out for that news!

# Saturday Forum: Acting Decisively in Uncertain Times

Saturday, September 26, 11AM (On Zoom)



We are pleased to present long-time anti-racism and prison activist Jennifer Beach. Jennifer was on the founding committee for the Critical Resistance Conference which helped reignite the movement to abolish the prison industrial complex. She is a co-founder of Prison Radio which elevates the voices of incarcerated persons in the public discourse and is an organizer with SURJ. Jennifer currently has a loved one in San Quentin. The discussion will highlight her work with SURJ, prison activism, and ideas for how to organize for racial justice within our congregation.

<https://zoom.us/j/2200241232?pwd=aCtldWI0OGxUdUxjeUJ5K0xSY09uUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 220 024 1232

**Passcode:** 328697

**Dial by your location:** +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

**Find your local number:** <https://zoom.us/u/adBV68Dcre>

## Wednesday Morning Vigils are Back!

Wednesdays from 7:30-9AM at UUSF

We are at a real turning point in history when the choices we make as individuals and as a country will have major lasting implications and effects. We cannot afford to be silent. So we invite you to join fellow UUs and other people of faith and conscience to gather together with signs and banners in front of our church on Wednesday mornings from 8-9 AM to stand up for what is right and moral. Each week we will have a special focus. Last week's focus was on **Black Lives Matter** and the lives lost to racism. This week we focused on **Environmental Justice**, the Environmental Crises we face, and the disastrous effects Climate Change that are so tragically highlighted by the current fires in CA, Oregon, and Washington and the multiple hurricanes that are building along our coasts. This week and every week we will focus on the extreme importance of voting our convictions and our consciences this November and of holding our elected officials accountable. Share your message about the crises we are facing with our community. Join us as we stand up together for what's right and what's moral.





## **New UU: A 2-Sessions Series for Visitors and Newcomers.**

Join Revs. Jacks and Southern, and special guests, for a two session New UU class in September. This interactive class will introduce you to Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. If you don't have Zoom capability, there is a simple way to call in to participate. More information will be sent to those who register. ([click here](#))

### **Session 1: Tuesday, September 22, 7-8:30 PM ([Register Here](#))**

#### **A Quick Journey from Past to Present, Unitarian Universalist History and Theology.**

To understand where we are now culturally as a movement, in our philosophies and practices, and our place in the larger landscape of religious history, we'd like to give you an overview of some of the big sweeps of time and where Unitarian Universalism's roots began and where we find ourselves today. We will cover history, theology and a bit of what we call "polity" -- how we run ourselves and why we do it like that.

### **Session 2: Tuesday, September 29, 7-8:30 PM ([Register Here](#))**

#### **UUSF Past to Present**

Along the same lines we'd like you to see the history of this particular congregation, it's place in the life and history of San Francisco and California. What has been part of this life, and right now how does this congregation understand the work of spiritual growth, the call to social action, what are our worship traditions (and why are they the way they are), how do we connect and take care of each other, and what is entailed in being called "a member."



### Adult Religious Education Programs

## **Morning Metta Meditation**

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 8-8:30 AM

**Led by Elena Hanyo Perez**

The zoom link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75735734442> (password metta)

You are warmly welcomed to join "Morning Metta Meditation" group, which meets Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 8-8:30 AM. Elena leads a simple, centering loving kindness meditation practice which is appropriate for all religious backgrounds and levels of meditation experience. Attendees can choose to leave their microphone and camera off and just follow along.

Elena Hanyo Perez is a member of UUSE. She is a Licensed Acupuncturist who practices in SF at Dance With Life Chiropractic in the Inner Sunset, and in Fresno at Benessere Fresno.

Questions? email [elena@communityneedles.com](mailto:elena@communityneedles.com)

### Adult Religious Education Programs

## **Equanimity Practice**

Fridays, 8-8:30 AM

**Led by Elena Hanyo Perez**

The zoom link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75735734442#success> (password metta)

You are warmly welcomed to join our "Equanimity Practice" group, which meets on Fridays, 8-8:30 AM. Elena Hanyo leads a simple meditation practice on cultivating equanimity- that is accepting the reality of life's highs and lows, and developing an attitude of peaceful calm abiding throughout the inevitable changes.

This practice balances the heart centered approach of our other group, lovingkindness- as it is common to get attached to positive outcomes for those we spend time wishing well. Equanimity allows us to develop mental stability and even-minded loving awareness. Appropriate for all religious backgrounds and levels of meditation experience. Attendees can choose to leave their microphone and camera off and just follow along.

Questions? email [elena@communityneedles.com](mailto:elena@communityneedles.com)



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 4, 12:30 PM

### Calling and Settling Our Minister

This past July, the Ministerial Search Committee gave its unanimous, enthusiastic recommendation that the **Reverend Vanessa Rush Southern** be called as the Society's Senior Minister. Based on the Search Committee's recommendation, the Board voted to call a special meeting of the members to vote on this recommendation. This will be the only business conducted at the Congregational Meeting.

There will be some special entertainment after the vote.

If you are unable to attend the Congregational Meeting, you may submit an Absentee Ballot ([here](#)). Members without access to a computer or other electronic device are encouraged to vote absentee so that votes can be easily counted. Please note that members can still join the Congregational Meeting (by Zoom or phone) even if they have already voted absentee, but their vote during the meeting will not be counted if the absentee ballot has been received.

Information about how to join the Congregational Meeting using Zoom is coming soon!

Questions? Email us at [info@uusf.org](mailto:info@uusf.org)



## **All Faiths Food Pantry**

Every Saturday

7:30 to 11:00 am

### **Old First Presbyterian Church**

1751 Sacramento St, San Francisco, CA 94109

Corner of Van Ness and Sacramento

[SIGNUP HERE](#)

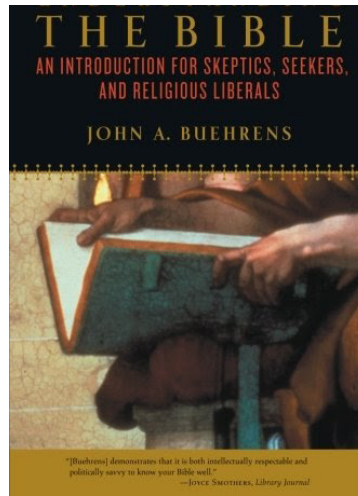
Questions: Contact **Megan Lehmer** - 415-385-0408 or [mlehmer@drlehmer.com](mailto:mlehmer@drlehmer.com)

Due to Covid-19, we have made some changes in how we handle the All Faiths Food Pantry. Rather than rotating between the five churches, all the churches are sending volunteers every week as we are encouraging younger people to volunteer, and suggesting that people over 60 not volunteer for safety reasons. We need twenty-five volunteers every week for the Food Pantry to go smoothly as we usually serve about 300 low income clients.

The Food Pantry takes place at Old First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Van Ness and Sacramento. We do offer free parking at the church garage located just south of the church on Sacramento as we give out stickers for the parking vouchers for anyone who parks in the garage at the end of the Food Pantry. The truck brings the food (groceries) from the SF/Marin Food Bank at 7:30 AM, so we need volunteers to arrive early. We are usually done with clean up by 11AM.

Volunteers are provided masks and gloves to pack the food in bags in the large meeting inside the church. Every effort is made to keep everything sanitary. Tables are sanitized frequently, and anything which accidentally falls on the floor is discarded. The packed bags are taken to tables outside, where our clients can pick up the pre-packed bags. Our clients line up outside the church with attention paid to social distancing. As a majority of our clients are monolingual Cantonese speaking, we do arrange to have a translator on site at all times.





## [Adult Religious Education Programs](#)

### Understanding the Bible

Led by Rev. Dr. John Buehrens

Meets Thursdays at 7PM for 90 minutes

[Register Here](#)

Whether we love it or hate it, the Bible is part of our culture's DNA. Our history, art, literature, and politics have all been shaped by biblical themes and interpretations. No social change movement has ever succeeded in America without a liberationist interpretation of the scriptures. UUSF's former Senior Minister, John Buehrens, invites you to join him this fall in a nine part exploration of the Hebrew Bible, known to most Christians as the "Old Testament."

The text will be his 2004 book, *Understanding the Bible: An Introduction for Skeptics, Seekers, and Religious Liberals*. It is available from the UUA Bookstore [here](#). Each session, after the first, will involve a close reading of one or more well-known Biblical texts. The course starts on Thursday, October 8, at 7 pm, and runs nine sessions, skipping Thanksgiving night, Nov. 26, and ending December 10. More info on our website [here](#).

Participants are also asked to donate \$5 per session to UUSF, but no one will be turned away. Please use the Adult Religious Education line when making your donation: [Here](#)



# UUSF 20s & 30s Ministry September Program

## **Becoming Together**

Wednesdays September 9 & 23  
7:00pm to 8:30pm

## **20s & 30s Game Night**

Saturday September 12  
6:00pm to 8:00pm

## **Racial Justice Small Group for Young Adults**

Monday September 14  
7:00pm to 8:00pm

More info at [uusf.org/tnt](https://uusf.org/tnt)

## SCW COMMUNITY GRANTS

The SCW Community Grants Committee gives grants of \$500 to \$5000 to small nonprofit organizations in the Greater Bay Area seeking to bring equality and justice into the lives of others, and to support UUSF in a manner that enhances the shared values of both organizations.

[Click Here to Apply for Grant](#)

Deadline for all applications is Friday, September 25, 2020.  
Questions? Thad Smith, [630smith@gmail.com](mailto:630smith@gmail.com)



## [ART COMMITTEE](#)

**For the month of September, 2020 the Art Committee is pleased to present a virtual art show in conjunction with Sensible Cinema the art and views of Chris Beale.**



"The Rohingya: On the Edge of Existence" is an in-depth exhibit by photographer Chris Beale who documents the lives of the Rohingya from Myanmar and their struggle to survive as refugees in Bangladesh. Beginning in 2011, the exhibit spans six years, taking viewers from the Rohingya's confinement in internally displaced concentration camps in Rakhine State to their forced exodus to Bangladesh in 2017. The exhibition follows the recently released UN fact-finding mission report which documents a campaign that killed thousands and forced 750,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh, and concludes that several of Myanmar's top military officials should be prosecuted in an international court on charges of genocide. Beale will join us to discuss his time spent documenting the refugee crisis as it unfolded in Myanmar and Bangladesh as well as the current situation in these two countries.

**For Chris Beale's interview please check out the following YouTube Video link:**

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

**For more of Chris Beale's photos and projects visit:**

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

# Bay Area UU Meetup

Tuesday, September 22, 4PM to 5PM (Zoom Link Below)

Hosted by:

Tess O'Riva, Executive Director, UU Church of Berkeley

Joe Chapot, Ministerial Assistant and Young Adult Coordinator, First UU Society of San Francisco

Our first meet-up was a great success, so we're going to sustain the momentum and meet again in two weeks! This is an open space for UUs to collaborate, network, triage, and celebrate successes in the ongoing work of our movement. We don't have an agenda, we're seeing where this experiment goes.

**We have a couple of ground rules brewing.**

- 1 - Bring items to share that are active! That is, some actions, events, etc that are being organized and led by you, another person, or an organization. Do not bring ideas and hope someone else will make it happen.
- 2 - Compose your thoughts ahead of time! We had 17 people on the first call, so we only have time for so much conversation.
- 3 - Help take notes! A public notes Google Doc will be shared on the call, please help take notes about what is said, and you can add in prepared remarks as well.

**Why have a Bay Area UU Meetup?**

Unitarian Universalism has a long tradition of congregational priority, with people connecting to their geographically nearest UU church. In the Age of COVID, we have an incredible opportunity to bridge the gaps between our many congregations and reach the unchurched. All UUs of any age are welcome to join us for our regular meetings to build a network of UU communities around the Bay Area. From lay leadership support, to professional and ministerial collaboration, to every UU and friends just getting to know one another, there is so much potential and power in collaboration and supporting each other.

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83309627737?pwd=cEhzTFZVN3RuMFgvWHVnQ1RTME1zdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 833 0962 7737

**Passcode:** 175038

**One tap mobile**

+14086380968,,83309627737#,,,,,0#,,175038# US (San Jose)

**Dial by your location**

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

# Welcome to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

Since its founding in 1850 our congregation has been a beacon of religious liberalism in this city. During the Civil War, the Rev. Thomas Starr King was credited with keeping California in the Union. He also challenged racism, raised millions for humanitarian relief and inspired new efforts in education.

Unitarianism and Universalism in America both arose in New England during the American Revolution. Because the roots of both traditions are in the Judeo-Christian tradition, you will see on the walls of our sanctuary two inscriptions:

"What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" (from the Hebrew prophet Micah) and "The Kingdom of God is within you." (from the Gospels)

Our religious forebears were far more interested in the teaching examples of Jesus than in beliefs about Jesus. Today we agree more about how we strive to treat others than we do about beliefs. Our backgrounds and spiritual orientations are diverse. Among us are people who consider themselves atheists, agnostics, humanists, Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims, Pagans and people guided by other forms of spirituality and belief.

Belief is many things, and so is disbelief. But we are interested in what happens to us when we open our minds to wider truth, our hearts to compassion, and our souls to the call to work for justice and peace.

For more about our congregation,  
please visit our website at [www.uusf.org](http://www.uusf.org).

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco  
1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109  
415-776-4580 / [info@uusf.org](mailto:info@uusf.org)