

Sunday, October 4, 2020, 10:50 AM



"Big Love"

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



Order of Service
Sunday, October 4, 2020
10:50 AM to 12:15 PM

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

Prelude

Ubi Caritas

Immortal Love Forever Full

Reiko Oda Lane, organist

James Aylward

Charles V. Stanford

Opening and Welcome

Meg McGuire, Ministerial Intern

Hymn 10

Immortal Love

ST. COLUMBA

Michele Kennedy; Brielle Marina Neilson; Ben Rudiak-Gould; Asher Davison, song leaders

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

Unison Chalice Lighting

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

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

Meditation on Breathing

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

Covenant

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

George Wiepert, Worship Associate

Spoken and Silent Meditation

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

Music

Michele Kennedy; Brielle Marina Neilson; Ben Rudiak-Gould;
Asher Davison, solists; My-Hoa Steger, pianist; Mark Sumner, singing/conducting
Teach Your Children Graham Nash; arr. Philip Lawson

Reading

George Wiefert

Offertory

The [offering this week](#) will go to support Murray Grove, a Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Center located adjacent to the historic Potter Chapel and site of John Murray's historic 1770 sermon. The Center to support community and the ongoing exploration of the Universalist tradition.



Music

Michele Kennedy; Brielle Marina Neilson; Ben Rudiak-Gould;
Asher Davison, solists; My-Hoa Steger, pianist; Mark Sumner, singing/conducting
The Gift of Love Hal Hopson

Reading

Meg McGuire

Music

Michele Kennedy; Brielle Marina Neilson; Ben Rudiak-Gould;
Asher Davison, solists; My-Hoa Steger, pianist; Mark Sumner, singing/conducting
Love Changes Everything from *Aspects of Love* A. L. Webber, arr. Ed Lojeski



Hymn 1014

Answering the Call to Love
Jason Shelton
Michele Kennedy; Brielle Marina Neilson; Ben Rudiak-Gould;
Asher Davison, song leaders; My-Hoa Steger, pianist

The promise of the Spirit:
Faith, hope and love abide.
And so every soul is blessed and made whole;
The truth in our hearts is our guide.

Chorus

*We are answering the call of love,
Hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith
we dare to proclaim
We are answering the call of love.*

Sometimes we build a barrier
to keep love tightly bound.
Corrupted by fear,
unwilling to hear,
Denying the beauty we've found.

Chorus

A bright new day is dawning
when love will not divide.
Reflections of grace
in every embrace,
Fulfilling the vision divine.

Chorus

Benediction

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

Postlude

Wondrous Love

Reiko Oda Lane, organist
Wood/Gordon Young

About Murray Grove :

Murray Grove Center is on a 20-acre campus nestled in the Pine Barrens adjacent to the 200-acre Edwin B. Fortsythe Wildlife Preserve, in Lanoka Harbor, NJ. It is located adjacent to the historic Potter Chapel where the first Universalist sermon in America was preached on September 30, 1770 by John Murray. The center positions itself as a place for supporting UU community and actively sponsoring events to anchor visitors to the history and modern rethinking of American Universalism. The center generally also offers affordable overnight accommodations for up to 40 people in their guest houses and 35 people in their campground. Conveniently located 90 minutes from New York City and Philadelphia, and 45 minutes from Atlantic City, the center hosts retreats, weddings, and is a year-round venue for overnight gatherings or one-day events. For more information see: www.murraygrove.org. The offering is taken in recognition of Universalism's 250th anniversary in the United States.

PARTICIPANTS

Service Notes

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Meg McGuire, Ministerial Intern
George Wiefert, Worship Associate

Technology

Jonathan Silk, sound, drums
Eric Shackelford, camera
Shulee Ong, camera
Joe Chapot, social media
Thomas Brown, sexton

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, organist
Mark Sumner, singing/conducting
My-Hoa Steger, pianist
Michele Kennedy, soloist
Brielle Marina Neilson, soloist
Ben Rudiak-Gould, soloist
Asher Davison, soloist

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) or Vanessa Southern (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.

$\text{♩} = 120$

1. Im - mor - tal love, for - ev - er full, for - ev - er
 2. Our out - ward lips con - fess the name all oth - er
 3. Blow, winds of love, a - wake and blow the mists of
 4. The let - ter fails, the sys - tems fall, and ev - ery

flow - ing free, for - ev - er shared, for -
 names a - bove; but love a - lone knows
 hate a - way; sing out, O Truth di -
 sym - bol wanes; the Spir - it o - ver -

ev - er whole, a nev - er - end - ing sea!
 whence it came and com - pre - hend - eth love.
 vine, and tell how wide and far we stray.
 see - ing all, E - ter - nal Love, re - mains.

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1807-1892
 Music: Irish melody

ST. COLUMBA
 8.6.8.6.



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.

****There will be no Zoom Coffee Hour following the Worship Service this morning.****

Membership

Become a member of UUSF!

We are thrilled to have so many visitors to our services these last few months.

Along with worship, there are [classes](#), [small group ministry](#) and [other programs](#) available to you. And, please consider joining our church community.

To learn more about membership, schedule an appointment with [Revs Alyson Jacks](#) or [Rev. Vanessa Southern](#) so that we can get to know you and answer your questions. Our September New UU class has filled.

Check our [website](#) and upcoming [FLAME](#) for dates and registration for the next session.



Sumner's Summer Offerings

With Music Director Dr. Mark Sumner

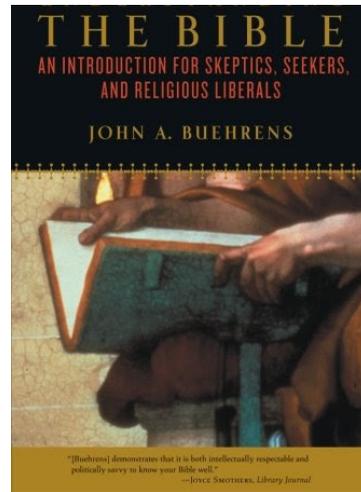
Mondays and Thursday

7:00 to 8:30 pm

For the Zoom link and a schedule of Offerings email Mark at sngwtme@gmail.com

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!



[Adult Religious Education Programs](#)

Beginning October 8!

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](#).

[Register Here](#)



Forum

UU the Vote 2020 -- JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Saturday, October 10, 11AM

With **Rev. Ranwa Hammamy**, Executive Director, Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of California. **Cal Ball** one of UU the Vote coordinators for UUSF. **Kristen Beireis** of the Nonpartisan Ohio Voter Outreach Committee (NOVOC).

UU the Vote has a goal to contact one million voters between now and the election with a special focus on states that have historically engaged in voter suppression practices. Discuss this important initiative. [Get involved.](#)

Watch a public service announcement, brought to you by church members **Mari Magaloni** and **Michael Bossier**. ([click here](#))

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

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

Meeting ID: 220 024 1232

Passcode: 328697

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,2200241232#,,,,,0#,,328697# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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



Humanists and Non-Theists

The Wall of Separation

Sunday, October 11, 1PM

(New ZOOM links every week)

We approach an election and changes in the Supreme Court that could profoundly degrade the separation of church and state upon which our country was built. Secular Americans are an emerging, yet unrecognized voting block. **Sarah Levin**, previously a grassroots organizer for the Secular Coalition of America, which includes the UU Humanists Association, has now established [Secular Strategies](#), a political consulting firm.

Secular Strategies is empowering policymakers, lawmakers, and change-makers to be effective champions of secularism in the United States, pioneering the mobilization of the largest, fastest-growing religious demographic in the nation: the religiously unaffiliated.

Sarah will address the challenges to separation of church and state that we are experiencing now and which are likely to become more severe in the future.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88537542951?pwd=STM5QVJMM1k5eCtYU2xJbk1yYXhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 885 3754 2951

Passcode: 090143

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Adult Religious Education Programs

Minister's Book Group: October

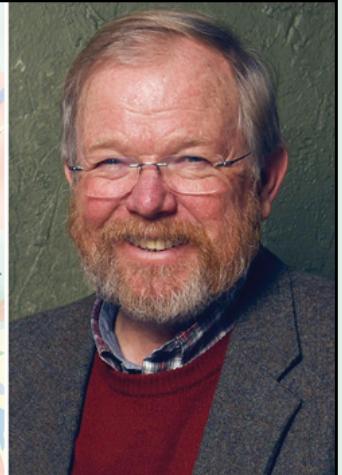
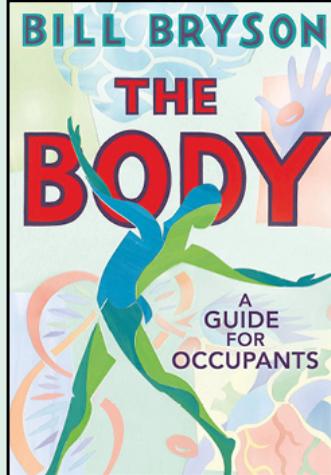
Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

"The Body: A Guide for Occupants"
by Bill Bryson

Dates: Wednesday, 10/28, 6:30-8 PM

Thursday, 10/29, noon-1:30 PM

Full disclosure: my biannual Minister's study group is reading this so it's my October book, but also one I would love a chance to discuss with all of you. Especially in this time of vulnerability around our bodies and health, but also as inheritors of traditions in Christianity that have distrusted body and embodiment, I thought this would be a good, fun dive into our most intimate partners in this life, our sweet bodied selves.



[Register Here](#)

Writing with JD

2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 12PM to 2PM

Beginning October 28!

Led by Rev. JD Benson

Class Size Limited to 10



Join Rev. JD Benson for a structured, prompt & reflection-driven writing opportunity. We will offer appreciations, not critique, for prose or poetry written & shared in our time together. Work may be completed in 10 minute writing sections. Anything you write could perhaps be the start of something you'll take further at home! Note: that this is NOT a time to bring in writing to be critiqued or workshopped.

[Register Here](#)

Aging As Spiritual Opportunity

Tuesdays from 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

October 20 thru November 24

Led by Rev. Margot Campbell Gross and Rev. Mary McKinnon Ganz



Join Minister Emerita Rev. Margot Campbell Gross and former Assistant Minister Rev. Mary McKinnon Ganz for a six session gathering for anyone interested in aging as a spiritual opportunity.

[Register Here](#)

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. We invite you to join fellow UUs and other people of faith and conscience as we 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. We want to do this in a way that is safe for everyone so please bring and wear your masks, use hand sanitizer, and socially distance.

The garage and interior of the church will not be available so please find street parking if you drive.

We will have some banners and signs but feel free to make and bring your own addressing whatever aspect of the current crises you want to highlight - Immigration Justice, Black Lives Matter, Environmental Crises and Environmental Justice, Opposing Fascism, Respecting Science in the Fight Against COVID-19, Protecting / Expanding Access to Healthcare, Protecting “Essential” Workers, Highlighting Economic Inequities, addressing the Environmental Crisis and Climate Change, and the Extreme Importance of VOTING this fall.





[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 UUSF. 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

[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



UUSF Forum Saturday Election Aftermath – Where Are We Headed?

Saturday, October 17, 11AM (On Zoom)

We are pleased to present a unique panel:

Rev. Dr. John Buehrens. former president of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and former senior minister of our congregation, author of *Conflagration: How the Transcendentalists Sparked the American Struggle for Racial, Gender, and Social Justice.*

Sunsara Taylor, co-founder of Refuse Fascism, writer for Revolution newspaper and co-host of the weekly internet program, the RNL (Revolution, Nothing Less) Show.

Dr. Bill Hing, Professor of Law and Director of Immigration/Deportation Defense Clinic at the University of San Francisco, author of *American Presidents, Deportation and Human Rights Violations.*

Three national figures in religion, law, and political activism will discuss possible scenarios during and after the November 3rd elections--what might we expect, and how can we work individually and together—at this crucial juncture in our country’s history? Now, and once the election is over, what protests, reforms and other actions must we make to achieve a more economically, socially and environmentally just nation for all? Q&A will follow this discussion. Join us!

<https://zoom.us/j/2200241232?pwd=aCt1dWI0OGxUdUxjeUJ5K0xSY09uUT09>

Meeting ID: 220 024 1232

Passcode: 328697

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Dial by your location

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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adBV68Dere>



BAY AREA FOOD INSECURITY ON THE RISE! NEED Help? Want to GIVE Help? BOTH?

Food insecurity is on the rise across the nation, including the Bay Area, as the continued COVID-19 pandemic affects jobs and reduces the access to healthy food by vulnerable seniors and individuals in quarantine. One study says that food insecurity has tripled in San Francisco in the past 6 months. If you are among this rising number of people and don't know how to access healthy food, we are here to help:

To Get Help connecting with sources of free healthy food, contact our lay chaplaincy team at Chaplains@uusf.org

THE SAN FRANCISCO / MARIN FOOD BANK NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

In the past six months, his wonderful organization has almost doubled the number of households it serves to about 60,000 a month. Both the increase in the number of people served and the suggestion that those over 60 do not volunteer for safety reasons during the pandemic has produced a critical need for younger volunteers.

TO HELP, please join us at the INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY!

Every Saturday
7:30 AM to 11AM

[SIGN-UP HERE](#)



For the month of October the **Art Committee** is pleased to present the virtual art show by the Society of Layerists in Multi-Media (SLMM).

Awakening--Together in Change
an online Exhibit by the Pacific Coast/Canada Region of SLMM

Our Region was looking forward to a traditional, physical exhibit at the Unitarian Church in San Francisco in Fall 2020 when the Corona Virus Pandemic hit. We had just completed a very successful group project on Global Warming/Climate Change. It had been put up in the Tiburon Town Hall which then had to close after a week.

When I polled the members they were very enthusiastic to go ahead with a virtual exhibit on the SLMM web site. They expressed many ideas for a title for the show and we finally decided on "Awakening--Together in Change." I think that each person expressed their own feelings about and response to the extraordinary times we are living in, as well as the sense of connection that we have as artists sharing our creative process.

Jenny Badger Sultan Coordinator, Pacific Coast/Canada Region

[To view this show click here](#)

"We are Tribe" painted by Janaia Donaldson

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

10:50 AM SUNDAY



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[Read our Newsletters here](#)

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.

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco
1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
415-776-4580 / info@uusf.org