

# “Elephant Company: an Earth Day service”



Earth Day Sunday, April 24, 10:50 AM, 2022  
First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco





**Order of Service**  
**Sunday, April 24, 2022**  
**10:50 AM - 12:15 PM**

Livestreamed at [bit.ly/uusfmedia](https://bit.ly/uusfmedia)

New to UUSF? Complete Our Connections form at [bit.ly/uusfconnections2022](https://bit.ly/uusfconnections2022)

Welcome back to those returning to onsite Worship Service!

Please stay masked during the Worship Service and maintain social distance.

After service we invite you to convene for coffee hour in the Courtyard.

As we ease back into the new normal, we want to keep our congregation and staff safe.

Please be mindful of social distance and wear your mask when you are not eating or drinking.

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Prelude      *The Foundation of Kindness*  
                  *Day Sky*

inspired by the poetry of Alireza Nurbakhsh  
inspired by the poetry of Khwaje Shams-od-Din Hafez  
Rita Fabrizio, Flautist; Jill Smith, Guitarist & Vocalist

Opening Words and Welcome

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

\*Hymn 175

*We Celebrate the Web of Life*

CRISTUS DER 1ST MEIN LEBEN

Reiko Oda Lane, Organist; Mark Sumner, Songleader

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

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.

Brief Invitations

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

Greeting One Another

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

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

Times of Spoken and Silent Meditation

Music

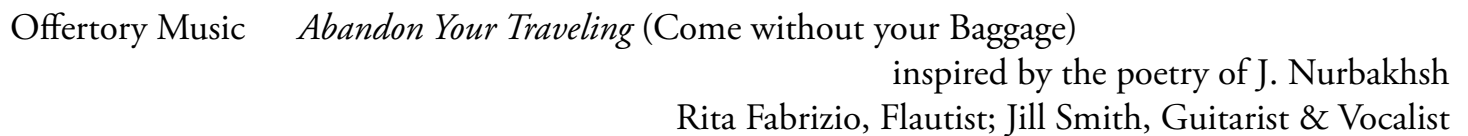
*The Colorless Wine*

inspired by the poetry of J. Nurbakhsh  
Rita Fabrizio, Flautist; Jill Smith, Guitarist & Vocalist

Reflection

Dennis Adams

Today's offering will go toward the **The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust**. Inspired by her husband's work as a founder warden in Tsavo National Park, Daphne Sheldrick established The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in 1997. The Trust works closely with the Kenyan Wildlife Trust to safeguard natural habitats ([more info on page 5](#)). To make a donation on Vanco ([bit.ly/uusfpayments](https://bit.ly/uusfpayments)), please use the "Special Offering" tab to make your gift. If you are sending a check, please mark in the memo Special Offering, 04.24.22.



Music      *Love Will Come Again*      inspired by the poetry of K. Hafez  
Rita Fabrizio, Flautist; Jill Smith, Guitarist & Vocalist

\*Hymn 324                      *Where My Free Spirit Onward Leads*                      KINGSFOLD  
Reiko Oda Lane, Organist; Mark Sumner, Songleader

Postlude      *Psalms 19*      Benedetto Marcello  
Reiko Oda Lane, Organist

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# PARTICIPANTS

## **Worship Leaders**

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister  
Dennis Adams, Worship Associate

## **Sunday Support**

Eric Shackelford, Camera  
Shulee Ong, Camera  
Donald Shearer, Camera  
Joe Chapot, Live Chat Moderator  
Jonathan Silk, Communications Director  
Remigio Flood, Sexton  
Kelvin Jones, Sexton  
Judy Payne, Flowers  
Linda Messner, Head Usher  
Tom Brookshire, Les James,  
Ralph Fenn, Zoom Coffee Hour

## **Musicians**

Reiko Oda Lane, Organist  
Mark Sumner, Songleader  
Rita Fabrizio, Flautist  
Jill Smith, Guitarist & Vocalist

# ABOUT

**Rita Fabrizio**, a native San Franciscan, received her Bachelor's degree in music from San Francisco State University, and went on to San Jose State University where she received her Master's degree in French flute repertoire. She has over 30 years experience as a flute instructor and woodwind repair technician, and she has performed with local orchestras and various groups in the San Francisco Bay Area, Santa Cruz, and Monterey Counties.

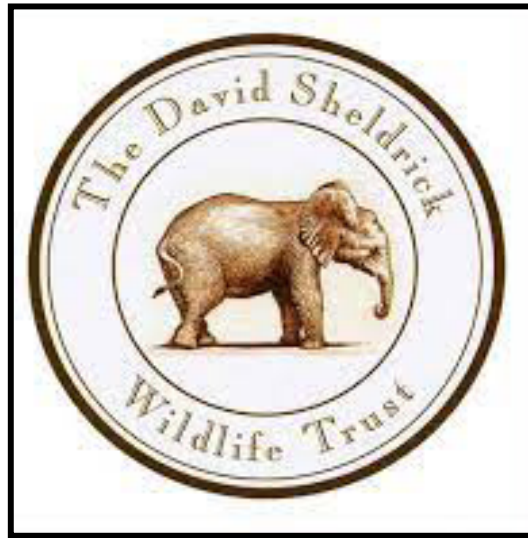
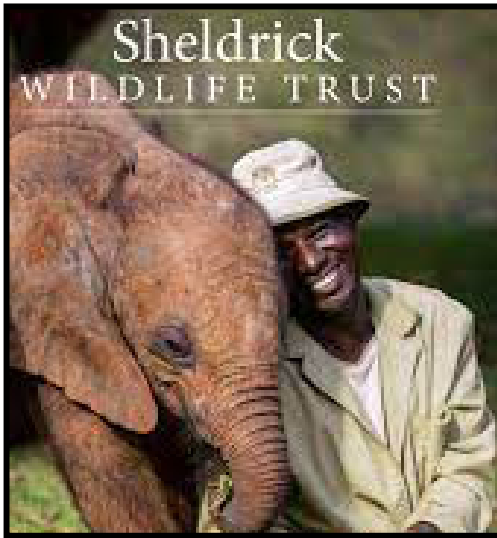
**Jill Smith** was born in Maine, and from a young age, music has been a companion in her travels around the world, allowing her to bridge cultures through song and sharing the joy of music. She currently resides in San Francisco with her husband, daughter, cat and dog, and she teaches high school English to newly-arrived immigrant youth.

### **Sunday Virtual Coffee Hour 12:15 pm Sundays**

Anyone is welcome to join our community for our Virtual Coffee Hour, immediately following the Sunday Worship Service. Coffee not required. Join the **Sermon Discussion Group**, led by **Donald Matusen**, at Virtual Coffee Hour after church today. Let the host know if you want to join this group when you arrive at Coffee Hour.

Join via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/725737157> / Meeting ID: 725 737 157

# OFFERTORY



## **The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust**

<https://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/donate>

Inspired by her husband's work as a founder warden in Tsavo National Park, Daphne Sheldrick established [The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust](#) in 1997. The Trust works closely with the Kenyan Wildlife Trust to safeguard natural habitats. It is a pioneer in wildlife rehabilitation and environmental conservation in East Africa. With their main operations in Kenya, the Trust has a range of programs that aim to decrease poaching, safeguard the environment, increase community awareness and outreach plus provide veterinary services to wildlife in need.

Orphan rescue and rehabilitation: They are a global leader in elephant adoption services, enabling them to rescue infant orphaned elephants and work on rehabilitating them back into the wild and have successfully raised over 200 elephant orphans. Through their mobile veterinary units, they have attended to the medical needs of 2,885 elephant cases.

**Anti-Poaching Operations:** Ivory and rhino horn poaching, habitat destruction and bushmeat poaching are having a devastating effect on Africa's wildlife and wild spaces. Our skilled front line teams, accompanied by armed Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Rangers and supported by our [Aerial](#) and [Canine](#) Units, are fully trained and equipped to deter and prevent illegal wildlife activities, as well as launch ambushes, with any necessary arrests carried out by KWS. They currently operate twenty Anti-Poaching Teams in partnership with the Kenya Wildlife Service, and fund two more teams operated by Mara Elephant Project (MEP) in the Mau Forest, undertaking anti-poaching operations to protect threatened wild animals and habitats in areas of natural importance within Kenya.

The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust has a 96% score on [Charity Navigator](#) and a platinum rank in transparency by [GuideStar](#), the Sheldrick wildlife trust spends 92% of its finances on the program and its services.



# 175 We Celebrate the Web of Life

$\text{♩} = 126$

1. We cel - e - brate the web of life, its  
 2. A frag - ment of the per - fect whole in  
 3. Of an - cient dreams we are the sum; our  
 4. Re - spect the wa - ter, land, and air which

mag - ni - tude we sing; for we can see di -  
 cac - tus and in quail, as much in ti - ny  
 bones link stone to star, and bind our fu - ture  
 gave all crea - tures birth; pro - tect the lives of

vin - i - ty in ev - ery liv - ing thing.  
 bar - na - cle as in the great blue whale.  
 worlds to come with worlds that were and are.  
 all that share the glo - ry of the earth.

⊕ Words: Alicia S. Carpenter, 1930- , © 1990 Alicia S. Carpenter  
 Music: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1560-1616

CHRISTUS DER IST MEIN LEBEN  
 C.M.

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# Where My Free Spirit Onward Leads

$\text{♩} = 116$

1. Where my free spir - it on - ward leads, well,  
2. My fam - i - ly is not con - fined to  
3. The ev - er spin - ning u - ni - verse, well,

there shall be my way; by my own light il -  
moth - er, mate, and child; but it in - cludes all  
there shall be my home; I sing and spin with -

lu - mined I've jour - neyed night and  
crea - tures be they tame or be they  
in it as through this life I

day; my age, a time - worn cloak I wear as  
wild; my fam - i - ly up - on this earth in -  
roam; e - ter - ni - ty is hard to ken and

⊕ Words: Alicia S. Carpenter, 1930- , © 1989 Alicia S. Carpenter  
Music: English traditional melody, harmony and arr. by Ralph Vaughan  
Williams, 1872-1958, used by perm. of Oxford University Press

KINGSFOLD  
C.M.D.

HUMANITY: WOMEN AND MEN



## ANNOUNCING OUR NEW MINISTER!

We would like to announce, along with the **Search Advisory Team**, that the **Rev. Laura Shennum** will be joining our staff next fall as our new Minister of Congregational Life, stepping into the role that **Rev. Alyson Jacks** has served these last 10 years. Rev. Shennum comes to us after more than a decade of experience in the Unitarian Universalist ministry, religious education and in depth training and experience in chaplaincy, and we are very excited about the possibilities of her leadership and experience on our shared journey into this next chapter of life together.

**Read More:** <https://www.uusf.org/announcement>

**To find out more about her and about the search process and future plans for staffing and programming and to ask any questions, we have scheduled these 2 remaining opportunities with Vanessa and members of the Search Advisory Team.**

**Please attend any event that fits your schedule.**

Sunday, April 24, 1 to 2 pm <https://bit.ly/uusf0424>

Monday, April 25, 7 to 8 pm <https://bit.ly/uusf0425>

**Dial by your location:** +1 669 900 9128

**Meeting ID:** 852 0009 8975

**Passcode:** 606546



## Adult Spiritual Growth Classes ([www.uusf.org/are](http://www.uusf.org/are))

### Minister's Book Group: Wednesday, April 27, 6:30-8 pm



Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister. April is Poetry Month! This is the first collection by Layli Long Soldier, a distinguished Oglala Lakota poet. The collection was winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, of the Pen/Jean Stein Book Award and a finalist for the Griffin International Poetry Prize. You will need to see it, and read it — ideally — to understand some of what she does in the book. Note their will only be one session on Wednesday, 4/27, 6:30-8 PM. Register at [bit.ly/MBGAPRIL22](http://bit.ly/MBGAPRIL22)

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### Morning Meta Meditation

Tuesdays & Thursday, 8-8:30 am (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75735734442#success>)

A simple, centering loving kindness meditation practice which is appropriate for all religious backgrounds and levels of meditation experience.

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### Equanimity Practice

Fridays, 8-8:30 am (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75735734442#success>)

A 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.

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### Paganism 101 A Unitarian Exploration of the New Paganism

4th Sundays at 1 pm PST / 4 pm EST on Zoom - Series of 9 monthly classes - Register at [bit.ly/paganism101class](http://bit.ly/paganism101class)

This course introduces the practices, beliefs, and history of Modern Pagan spirituality. Participants in this class will create and maintain a student altar as we explore basic altar set up and ritual tools, the wheel of the year, deity, the four elements, and more. We also touch on different pagan paths and examine how modern paganism fits with Unitarian Universalist principles. Class is FREE. \$5 per class donation welcome but not required.

# Events, Meetings & Volunteer Opportunities ([www.uusf.org/news](http://www.uusf.org/news))

## Easter Lilies Available Today!

Easter Lilies looking for a good home and will be available Sunday April 24th. Donations (\$10 recommended) requested, but not mandatory. Please find the flowers and a friendly member of the flower committee at a table in the hallway after church.

## UUSF All Church Retreat 2022 is Back! - Register (<https://bit.ly/uusfretreat22>)

You are invited to the UUSF All Church Retreat, this Memorial Day Weekend. Two long years of being apart have taken their toll, so come and enjoy actually being with the community amidst the beauty and serenity of the redwood forest near Occidental, CA. Partake in peer-led workshops, attend an outdoor Sunday worship, or give us your most captivating performance at the Talent Show! Or relax and get away from the hustle and bustle of life in the city. Scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance (<https://bit.ly/acr-scholarships22>) Ask Questions or pick up Paper Form at the ACR Table today!

## Dangerous Truths 4/30/22 - "Frederick Douglass And Other Black Transcendentalists" On Zoom (<https://bit.ly/dtruths3>)

UUSF Human Rights Working Group and Forum present the third of a series of conversations on u.s. history we call Dangerous Truths. Join us on **Saturday, April 30 from 1pm to 3pm** for this examination of the lives of the early abolitionists and their role in U.S. history. Q&A session and discussion will follow this presentation. Rev. Dr. John Buehrens, Unitarian Universalist minister and former President of the UU national Association, is an historian, and author of many books on American spiritual and social justice movements of the 19th & 20th Centuries. Just as The 1619 Project and Indigenous history have given us new perspectives on America's myths of origin, so also have new findings about the 19th century interactions of Black and white abolitionists, especially the Transcendentalists. Info: [www.uusf.org/hrwg](http://www.uusf.org/hrwg)

## Black, Indigenous, & People of Color Gathering - May 1 from 9:30 AM to 10:50 am

The sacred space is open to our members and friends who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color. The meeting takes place by Zoom (for now) on the first Sunday of every month often from 9:30-11am. If you are interested in attending or finding out more, please email [bipoc@uusf.org](mailto:bipoc@uusf.org). Please come join this space for joy, renewal, care and inspiration.



## Celebrating the Life of Robert Kingsbury Lane - Sunday, May 1st, 2pm, Sanctuary

**Livestream:** <https://bit.ly/boblane0501>

Please join us on Sunday, May 1st at 2:00 pm online or in our Sanctuary for a Memorial Service for Robert Lane. The remarkable **Robert Kingsbury Lane**--loving husband of UUSF Organist Reiko Oda Lane, father, grandfather, brother, and friend--passed away on February 19, 2022, age 77. Robert spent his last day surrounded by family and the beauty of nature on a sunny and secluded beach, soaking his feet in the Pacific ocean and delighting his grandkids with treasures he'd sifted from the sand.

## UUSF Game Night: From Scrabble to DnD - Friday, May 6 from 6 - 8pm - Hosted by: UUSF 20s & 30s Community

By popular demand, the UUSF 20s & 30s community is hosting a Game Night and everyone of any age is invited! We'll play classic games as well as modern ones. There is even some interest in starting a Dungeons and Dragons game. Bring your own games to share, and feel free to eat before or bring a dinner for yourself too (or order some delivery.) To be clear, folks of any age, not just young adults, are invited to join us. Questions: Email [youngadults@uusf.org](mailto:youngadults@uusf.org). RSVP by email or on Facebook or text **Joe Chapot** at 415-244-7253

## A Call For Stories of Small Group Ministry - Send your stories to [sgm@uusf.org](mailto:sgm@uusf.org) and plan to join the service on May 22.

Since we began our Small Group Ministry program at UUSF in 2002, it has been a source of connection and spiritual growth for hundreds of members and friends of this congregation. We will have a time to reflect on and celebrate what this program has meant to our community at our service on Sunday, May 22. **So we want to hear from all those who have participated in Small Group Ministry** over the years, and ask that you share your stories of how the program has touched you. Web: <https://www.uusf.org/sgm>

## 2022-23 ANNUAL OPERATING FUND CAMPAIGN

As of last Monday we have raised \$728,246 toward our \$750,000 budget and needs. Thank you to those 182 households who have given!! In order to plan and plan responsibly, and in order to be able to weather the remainder of the challenges ahead we need the remaining households, all of you, to give. It will take 100% participation to be the congregation and community we seek to be. Thank you also to all of those who have joined us as visitors and livestream guests and also given! The sense of our larger reach and connection has been so exciting. To pledge online, you can do so at <https://bit.ly/UUSFPledge2022> or just send an email to **Joe Chapot** at [jchapot@uusf.org](mailto:jchapot@uusf.org)

**“Never What  
You Imagined”  
April 17, 2022**



**[CLICK HERE TO VIEW LAST WEEKS WORSHIP SERVICE](#)**



## **UUSF MEDIA**

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**[Check out our Complete Worship Service Archives Here](#)**

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**[Contact us 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.

## OUR SOCIETY'S VISION

We, The First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco, delight in our authentic, inclusive congregation that reaches across generations, ethnicities, and differences. We take care of one another, building spiritual community, knowing that we are stronger and accomplish more together. Guided by our responsibility to future generations, we take leadership in shaping a compassionate, sustainable world. Inspired by our courageous heritage and compelled by conscience, we hold one another accountable to work for racial, environmental, and economic justice and the dignity and rights of all.

## OUR SOCIETY'S MISSION

As a vibrant, joyous, caring, inclusive community of diverse people, we create a nurturing space for spiritual growth and learning. Based on our shared values, we work together courageously and publicly for human rights, economic justice, and environmental salvation.

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)