

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia

THE GIFT OF YOU - SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AT UU VISALIA

Sign-up for weekly tasks -

Greeter to welcome people arriving for services.

Hospitality Hosts for visitors during Sunday supper.

**Kitchen set-up and cleanup
Summer Worship Facilitators
and Associates**

**Audio equipment set-up and
after-service storing**

Volunteer for longer-term positions as

Newsletter Editor - to create/update monthly newsletter on Constant Contact and post on Ning website. Computer experience, writing and/or graphics ability, patience and a sense of humor are helpful. Should be regular attendee and familiar with UU values. Training available. Contact April or Harold for more information.

Choir Member - The Choir practices at 4 PM on designated Sundays each month. If you are interested in joining, contact Ken.

Verger - to coordinate the set up and storage of equipment before and after each service.

June 2011 Worship Service Schedule

Sunday services begin at 5PM, with buffet supper at 6PM.

June 5, 2011 - "Ethical Eating," a sermon by the Rev. Rali Weaver, presented by April Hill. Many of us rely upon foods that are processed and prepared for us. We rarely have time to make anything from scratch. Consider that food can nourish us in healing ways when we make educated decisions about what to eat.
Special Collection to Food Link for trucking bottled water for distributing to communities with contaminated water!
(Choir will sing and Board will meet after dinner.)

June 12, 2011 - "The Transient and the Permanent: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Unitarian Universalist Association." A report from the UUA-Pacific Central District Assembly by Anna Garcia and April Hill. (Worship Team will meet after dinner.)

June 19, 2011 - "Reverence for Life." Earl Crusier will help set a context and guide a holy conversation (that means, conversations that deal with root meanings) on the topic. Highlights from the life of Albert Schweitzer will be reviewed and participants are invited and encouraged to bring quotes, thoughts, poems and passages relating to this subject. (Social Justice Team will meet after dinner; Communications Team to meet at 10AM at the Wood's house.)

June 26, 2011 - Annual Congregational Business Meeting, beginning at 3:00PM at the Meetinghouse. Light buffet supper to follow.

**Please Note - Service topics and meetings
are subject to change.**

UU Visalia Fellowship News & Events

Communications Team- help plan & implement publicity, newsletter, website, etc. Contact Jolene

Caring Committee - If your heart draws you to help UUFV members or friends, join Johanna, Deborah and Jane. on the Caring Committee. Also, if you know of someone in need of care, call or contact the team.

Field Trip to UU Fresno or UU Porterville? Anyone interested in a group outing to either for a Sunday morning service?

Friday Lunch Group? Anyone interested in revitalizing our weekly Friday lunches?

Ongoing Fellowship Events

Meetings (Dates are subject to change.)

After Sunday Service and Dinner

First Sunday of each month - Board;
Second Sunday - Worship Team;
Third Sunday - Social Justice Team;
Third Sunday morning - 10AM-12PM Communications team

UU Visalia Podcast

We have a regular audio podcast of UU Visalia presentations. You can download these podcasts [here: http://podcast.uuvisalia.org](http://podcast.uuvisalia.org)
Or just go to the iTunes Store, and search for "Unitarian Visalia."

Please Use Your S.H.A.R.E.S. Card at Save-Mart

Annual Congregational Meeting on June 26, 2011 - 3:00-6PM at Friends Meetinghouse - followed by a light buffet supper

*The Nominating Team will present nominees for the Executive Committee/Board. (Team leaders will be recruited later.)

*Budget Team will present plans for 2011-2012 based on pledges received. (If you are a member and have not committed funds to the Fellowship yet, please bring or mail the information to PO Box 3469, Visalia CA 93278. Many thanks!)

*Teams will share reports of the year's activities - Social Justice, Communications, Worship, Adult Religious Education, Transforming Congregations, etc.

*Proposed revisions to the bylaws - (a) substitute the role of the Vice President with one of a President-Elect and would add a "Faith in Action Officer." The President-Elect would serve as an assistant for the President, assume the President's duties if he/she is absent or incapacitated and assume the office of the President after the incumbent President's term ends. (b) New position - Faith in Action Officer to assist the Executive Committee / Board in coordinating the congregation's ministries for peace, social justice, environmental sustainability and community outreach; and (c) allow UUFV checks for less than \$100 to be signed by one officer, not two. **Please join us for the June 26 Congregational Meeting to celebrate 2010-11 and plan for 2011-12!**

Memorial Fund for David Reid - A special fund has been established to receive donations to the Visalia UU Fellowship for purposes of growth.

Summer 2011 Worship Programs - from Evensong: A Series of Gatherings, by Barbara Hamilton-Holway, published by the Unitarian Universalist Association. Each Sunday evening, participants will explore individual life journeys through sharing thoughts, experiences, doubts, and current beliefs about traditional religious concepts. We will follow an order of service, with sharing, listening attentively and without interruption to one another. After the gathering, we will enjoy our regular buffet suppers.

One or two facilitators are needed for each week's gathering. A sign-up sheet will be circulated for volunteers. Evensong facilitators should be people who are involved in the congregation, or people who want to become more involved. Preparation instructions are provided with each gathering for facilitators' reference and photocopies of handouts will be provided. Here are the topics for the first gatherings:

July 3 - #1 - Religious and Spiritual Experience

July 10 - #2 - The Divine: What Do I Really Want?

July 17 - #3 - The Human: What Limits Do I Encounter?

Our Fellowship is participating in the Save-Mart S.H.A.R.E.S program. If you take one of our S.H.A.R.E.S. cards and give it to the clerk at the check-out counter, our Fellowship will receive 3% of your grocery purchases from Save-Mart, at no extra cost to you. Please get your own S.H.A.R.E.S. card from Jolene. And... bring your receipts for the monthly Raffle!!

Recycling Computer Ink Cartridges

- for fundraiser and ecology!. Place your used cartridges in the green and white collection box on the shelf in Meetinghouse foyer. When filled, the box is sent to Empties4Cash and a check is mailed back to the UU Fellowship of Visalia, earning us \$20+ for each boxful. Cartridges with a print head are qualified for payment. That includes most of Hewlett Packard, Lexmark, Compaq, Canon, Dell, Brother, and Apple. Cartridges without a print head do not qualify for payment.



Please visit our
online
bookstore!

Anything you buy from Amazon.com after clicking on the [Powered by Amazon.com](#) logo, will provide a percentage to help support our Fellowship.

July 24 - #4 - The Messiah, the Christ, the Buddha, the Divine Made Manifest: What is Possible? What Keeps Me Going?

July 31 - #5 - The Community: What is Possible Together?

August 7 - #6 - Endings: How Do I Live with Loss and Death?

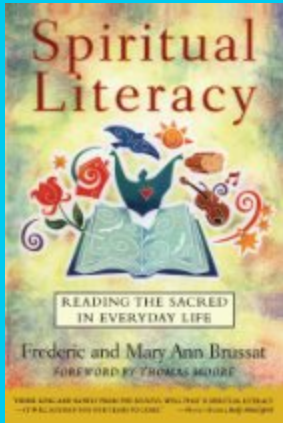
August 14 - #7 - Ministry: What Is My Ministry? What Am I Called to Do in the World?

Evensong gives long-term congregational members a chance to spend time with a small group and to meet, get to know and welcome newcomers. The program gives newcomers a chance to get acquainted, speak of their experiences and beliefs and hear members of the congregation speak as well. Please join us for one or all of the Evensong services. Volunteer facilitators may sign up at a June church service or by contacting Anna, Dorothy or April.

Transforming the Congregation - Our UU Fellowship has amazing members and friends with many gifts and talents to share, in kinship and covenant with each other. A Chalice Lighters Grant from Pacific Central District is helping us develop goals and a vision for the future. The Transforming Congregations Team of the Reverends Jeanelyse Doran and Dan Kane have traveled to Visalia for four weekends of workshops, worship services and meetings with congregational leaders. They have discussed issues with us by phone, Skype and e-mail. We appreciate their assistance as we cope with a challenging year. Summer is a time to relax, discover our gifts, cultivate friendships and perhaps, contemplate change. **You are invited to join and further the Transforming Congregations Team conversations, "articulate your UU faith," participate in summer Evensong services and listen to each others' stories and dreams.** After all, listening solidifies relationships and is a foundation for community. In addition, please reserve the weekends of August 20-21 (or 27-28), October 15-16 and December 10-11, 2011, when the Transforming Congregations Team plans to visit, conduct workshops for the entire congregation and meetings for committees.

Families with Children will be invited to a social gathering this Summer-Fall to get acquainted, share our UU values and plan activities together. If you are interested, please e-mail info@uuvisalia.org.

Newcomer Orientation and Lunch will be scheduled at a mutually convenient time in Summer 2011. If interested, please talk with a Board member. Learn more about Unitarians, Universalists, and the benefits of membership with the Visalia UU Fellowship. Enjoy sharing of spiritual journeys, camaraderie and a bit of history. Unitarian Universalist congregations are places where people gather to nurture their spirits and put their faith into action by helping to make our communities and the



**Spiritual Literacy:
Reading the Sacred
in Everyday Life**
By Frederic Brussat,
Mary Ann Brussat

A book that belongs in every seeker's home, *Spiritual Literacy* answers the universal question, "How can I live a spiritual life every day?" Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat reveal a way to read the texts of our lives and of the world around us for sacred meaning.

Using more than 650 brief examples from contemporary books and movies, they tutor us in the art of lingering with our experiences and seeing the world with fresh eyes. They present spiritual perspectives on things, places, nature, animals, leisure, creativity, service, body, relationships, and community. The Alphabet of Spiritual Literacy describes the key spiritual practices -- from attention to zeal -- that spell the meaning in daily life.



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Fair Trade Coffee Available for Sale -

We ordered some favorites before the price increased. Cost is \$6.40 for each 12 oz bag for ground Breakfast Blend; beans of Organic Columbian Full City and beans of Organic Love Buzz. Place your orders at aprhill52@sbcglobal.net and make checks out to April Hill.

Bumper Stickers Now Available for UU Visalia

Mess-free sticky back decals to display on car bumper, window, computer, etc. Colors should last four years. The decals are removable and the adhesive can be cleaned off with alcohol. Free will donation would be appreciated. Contact Jolene or a board member.

Unitarian Universalist Events

June 22 - 26: General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Charlotte, NC. For information, please see www.uua.org/ga

July 2011 PCD Leadership School, Ben Lomond, CA has unfortunately been canceled.

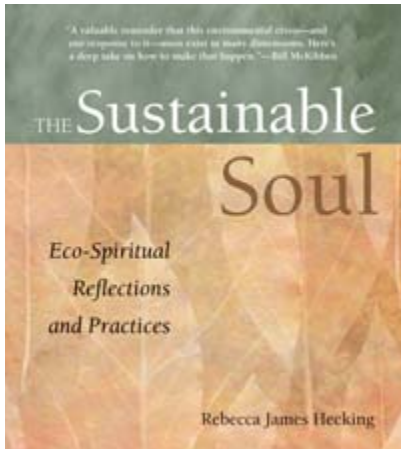
Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) Do you work on Sunday mornings? Are you home sick? Can't find a ride to church? Just want to read Unitarian Universalism words 24/7? The Church of the Larger Fellowship's mission is to provide a ministry to isolated religious liberals, promote the understanding and growth of Unitarian Universalism and institute programs to that end. "Quest", CLF's worship publication is available online and provides inspirational messages written by renowned UU ministers for you to read, print and listen to. The CLF is supported by its membership and gifts from readers like you. For more information, check the CLF website at www.clfuu.org/giving , e-mail clf@clfuu.org or call 617-948-6165.

Community Events

Bottled Water for Valley Communities - Tulare County Food Link is seeking cash donations to help transport free bottled water from Sacramento and Santa Ana for Valley communities with water contamination problems. The water was provided through Feeding America, a national hunger-relief charity based in Chicago. A total of 50 semi-truckloads of bottled water are available, but each load will cost \$400 to transport to Visalia. Food Link will distribute the bottled water with the help of the nonprofit Community Water Center, which will identify the communities in need of bottled water. Such communities include Seville, East Orosi, Tonyville and Tooleville. Tax-deductible donations can be mailed to Tulare County Food Link, PO Box 1544, Visalia CA 93279. **(A special collection will be taken at the June 5th UUFV service.)**

UU Visalia
Quick Links
Home Page:
uuvisalia.org

[Newsletter Archive](#)



New from UUA - [now available on our UU Visalia online bookstore!](#)

The Sustainable Soul: Eco-Spiritual Reflections and Practices

by Rebecca James Hecking

Celebrate Earth Day with this collection of meditations, journal prompts, and musings on eco-spirituality from UU blogger Rebecca James Hecking. Each chapter contains an essay and spiritual practices which are ideal for group or individual reflection.

The practices include a wide range of suggestions such as guided meditations, journaling prompts, creative art projects and ideas for concrete action. You can choose the practices that best suit your personality,

Free On-line Teleseminar on Evolutionizing Your Life - Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow have visited Visalia two times in recent years to speak about Thank God for Evolution. Now they are teaching "the science of how to decode human behavior, eliminate self-judgment and create a big-hearted life of purpose and joyful integrity." Our ancestors never had to deal with the levels of complexity, uncertainty and stunning variety of temptations and distractions that surround us all day - our inherited biological and social instincts are "mismatched" with the supercharged lives we live today. To participate log into <http://bit.ly/EvolutionizeYourLife> or learn more on www.thereatstory.org

Thanks for supporting Crop Walk - Five UUFV members participated in the April 3 walk and raised \$160 in donations as of 4/24/11. If you wish to make a donation to support FoodLink and hunger relief efforts of Church World Service or Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, please contact April or contribute on-line at www.cws.org.

Sunday, June 19, 2011, 3-5PM - PFLAG - monthly meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - PFLAG-Tulare and Kings Counties is a volunteer group of parents, family and friends of people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) meet on the third Sunday of each month. Location is Family HealthCare Network, 305 E Center St, at corner of Bridge Street. (Use the courtyard entrance on Bridge. Pedestrian gate is in the alley.) **Special Note** - Contributions to PFLAG National before June 10, 2011 will be worth twice as much due to a matching gift fund. Donations may be mailed to

PFLAG, 1828 L Street, NW, Suite 660, Washington, D.C. 20036

June 4, 2011 - Fresno Pride Parade from 10AM-3:00PM- Information at www.gayvisalia.com

South Valley Peace Center - Peace vigils are held on the first Sunday of each month at the corner of Walnut and Mooney. Summer vigils (June-September) take place from 8-9AM.

The SVPC has been granted a construction permit from the FCC for full power non-commercial educational FM radio station to serve most of Tulare and Kings counties with 25,000 watts. They are applying for a federal grant to cover 75% of the \$166,000 estimated cost of building the station and need to raise approximately \$40,000 in matching funds from supporters. All are invited to make a financial commitment to bringing local voices and news from a progressive perspective to our diverse communities. For information, check www.southvalleypeacecenter.org, e-mail tularerue@gmail.com, or call 686-6836. Contributions may be mailed to SVPC, 19206 Ave 296, Visalia CA 93292. (The South Valley Peace Center is incorporated as a 501 (c) (4) non-profit corporation. Donations are not deductible for charitable purposes.)

Contact Info:
Unitarian Universalist

lifestyle, and unique journey.

Fellowship of Visalia

info@uuvisalia.org

(559) 477-4214

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If you're searching for a spiritual home that is guided by a quest for truth and meaning, not by a set creed or dogma, we invite you to discover Unitarian Universalism.

We are an open-minded religious community that encourages you to seek your own spiritual path, offering you resources to help you make your own decisions. Unitarian Universalist congregations are places where people gather to nurture their spirits and put their faith into action by helping to make our communities and the world a better place.

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia | 17208 Avenue 296, Visalia (Friends Meeting House) | Hwy 198 - Farmersville Exit - then east on North side frontage road | PO Box 3469 | Visalia | CA | 93278