

**Ministerial Midweek Message: Family
Friendly dinner, Tee-Shirt Sunday, Water
Tasting, music and more!**

Tuesday, July 20th

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Greetings from the Family Minister and Church Office!

This note includes words from Family Minister Roger Jones and additional information from Office Assistant Linda Hoganson. (Linda has been there and I just got back, so I don't yet know all of what's what, or what's happening.)

You can expect the link to the new August [Unigram](#) next week.

From Roger:

I am happy to be back after a month of travels and look forward to seeing you soon. Feel free to jump over the next long paragraph to find out what's coming up!

Travel Summary: After participating in the General Assembly of our Unitarian Universalist Association ended, I stayed in Minnesota for some extra days to visit with colleagues and friends who live there. Then I flew to Boston just in time to catch the spectacular Independence Day fireworks there. We rented a car and drove to Bar Harbor, Maine, next to Acadia National Park, in order to vet the place as a vacation destination for the Obama family. On the way back to Boston we stayed overnight with the wife of the former president of my theological seminary. From Boston I flew to Amsterdam, from the center of which it took an additional 3.5 hours-- by intercity trains and a taxi-- to get to Kerkrade, a town on the German border. Fifty ministers from Europe, Africa, North America, and the Philippines attended the Ministers' Conference of the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists. The conference was great. It was unseasonably hot and humid

there and the 12th century monastery/conference center had no air conditioning--or fans! On my way back I stopped in New York to visit a college friend and her husband and to see a colleague who works at the Veatch grantmaking program at the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock. New York was (like Europe) quite humid but most places had air conditioning--except Central Park, whose Snow Leopards were lying about and panting with incredulity at how far down in altitude and climate fate had brought them. You can find my postings from General Assembly and the UU Ministers' Association annual meeting, and a few from my other travels, [at my weblog](#). I will add more in the coming days, since I had little time to post from the Netherlands conference and then didn't stop moving till I got back to California. Glad to be where the heat is dry.

Catching Up with What's Going On

[The UUSS online calendar](#) shows me that the new Monday Night Meditation is ongoing, that the UU Master Planning Facilitators had a guest presenter today, that Part 2 of the World Religions course has begun and takes place tonight at 6:30, that the UU Harmonies Sing-Along takes place tomorrow night at 6 PM as it does every Wednesday night, Ttunes Instrumentalists and --oh!-- that the Board of Trustees meeting for Thursday is cancelled for lack of a quorum of trustees. So it does make a difference to check that calendar. Here is some more information:

In Memoriam

I was sorry to return to the sad news that Marjorie S. Dayton passed away late last week. She was found in her home by her daughter, and was on her sofa, appearing that she had drifted off. Marjorie had been a church member since 1976 and has given away many hand-knitted items. I met her first, and saw her most often, in the UUSS Library, right off the social hall, where books were sold after services. I am sure many members have fond memories of her, and that we all extend our condolences to Marjorie's family and close friends. When any

memorial arrangements are set we will notify you by the [Blue Sheet](#) announcements and this weekly email.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, July 21

Family-Friendly Dinner from 5:30-7:30 PM--

Come join us at the Fresh Choice salad buffet restaurant near UUSS. All ages and stages of life are welcome--newcomers and old-timers alike. The conversation will be nourishing and wholesome, and it's a great way for newer folks to meet longer term members and friends. Print off a flyer at http://uuss.org/Home/Special_Events or find our table before ordering, so the restaurant can make a donation of 15% of your purchase to the church. (Fundraising is a side benefit of this event, which for us is to promote fellowship and make it easy for families with kids to have a social night out.) Fresh Choice is at 535 Howe Ave, between Fair Oaks and Sierra Blvd. I will try to get there early to meet those of you who want to get to UUSS for the UU Harmonies Sing-Along at 6 PM.

Weekly Sing-Alongs -- UUSS Harmonies summer schedule is open to all who will open your mouths to sing! Starts Wednesday nights at 6 PM. Questions? Please contact Judy Lane.

This Friday, July 23

Bi-Weekly Play-Alongs – UTunes Instrumentalists began only a few months ago, inviting all beginning, intermediate players of musical instruments to participate in open jam sessions as well as selected hymns and tunes suitable for all levels. This group meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at 6pm. Thank you, Joan Rubenson.

This Saturday, July 24

Community Garden Potluck Lunch-- If you haven't fallen in love with our church's UURTHSONG Community Garden yet, that

might mean you have not seen it! Well, it's more than a source of wholesome food and beautiful flowers, more than a way to keep idle hands away from the Devil's temptations, more than a way for members and friends to be involved in meaningful work. It's also a top-notch social venue! All are welcome to bring something to share at noon Saturday for the monthly potluck. See the Blue Sheet and Newsletter or contact Glory Wicklund with Questions! The Garden will begin offering some of its bounty on Sunday, the 25th. All donations are returned to the Garden to cover expenses.

This Sunday, July 25

***A worship service for all ages, sizes and fabric blends at 10:00 AM**

Tee-Shirt Theology: Please wear a tee shirt with words or images that reflect one of your religious, spiritual, ethical, organizational or social justice commitments. We'll be invited to show our messages around. Please, no shirts with partisan political attacks or adults-only content. This is a time for all ages! Our Community Partner in July and August is the [Birthing Project Clinic](#) of Sacramento, which is a program of the Center for Community Well Being. Half of our plate collection in the Sunday Offering will be given to this program. Thanks for your generosity and support!



(Childcare offered in Room 11 but no RE program.). After church I lead an orientation to the special Youth Coming of Age program, which starts in fall. All welcome, but parents of those in grades 8-10 are expected if you are in town!

Our **Summer Religious Education** program -- called **ArtWorks**-- returns NEXT Sunday, August 1. A series of Craft sessions will be offered in August. Many thanks to several of the artists in our congregation who have been introducing our children and teens to new skills, perspectives, materials, and the wonder that can emerge from all of it. The inter-age mentoring

that takes place is not just heartwarming, it's subtly transforming of us as individuals and as a religious community. **Note:** A Youth Art Show will be held in the Main Hall on Sunday, August 22, to display the creative and beautiful paintings done during July with instructor Patty Taylor.

After Church this Sunday

Social Responsibility and Green Sanctuary are again hosting the Bottled Water Tasting, or How to Kick the Bottled Water Habit and Help Eliminate our Addiction to Using Plastic for All Things. on Sunday, July 25 after service in the Lobby and Main Hall. This is a fun and rewarding Taste Test, our children can pick out their favorite flavored water, but find the tap water tastes okay too. [Dorothy Mitchell](#) is offering to teach Junior and Senior High Youth as well as adults the fine art of hosting such an event, at 9:30am before the service.

Recycling on Sunday, July 25. Clean out your garages and drawers, and bring your used batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, printer cartridges, and cell phones, and we will take them for proper disposal or reuse. Look for the bright recycling boxes in the foyer or outside if it is not too hot.

Youth Coming of Age introduction on Sunday, July 25, location posted at church

"Youth Coming of Age" takes place from October to May through Sunday night meetings and three awesome weekend retreats. You can help as a fellow coordinator, mentor for a youth, or a chaperon at retreats at UU churches and a campground. Right now we have one lay leader coordinator and seek another energetic person to join with us. In June we sent a letter about it to parents of youth in grades 8-10, and posting it at <http://uuss.org/RE/COA%202010-11.pdf>. If you have such a youth, please attend the July 25 introduction after church to see if this is a commitment your family wishes to make. It will be worth it! If you didn't get a letter let me know or let [Miranda Massa](#) (RE Assistant) know right away.

Membership Committee meeting on Sunday, July 25, location posted at church. Terry Preston and other lay leaders work together to support the ways we extend hospitality to all, including those who arrive for Sunday worship wondering what happens here and wondering if this might be a new home for them or their families. [Carole Czujko](#) is Member Connections Facilitator and will be here too.

Monday, July 26

Weekly Meditation: Thanks to the volunteer leaders who make possible the new Monday Night Meditation Group. It takes place every week (unless posted otherwise in the Blue Sheet Announcements or on the web site) from 6:00 PM. For questions, contact Chelsy Markell at ckmarkell@yahoo.com or 916-921-2103 or [Scott Taggart](#).

My apologies for unintentional omissions and errors. I wrote this message before getting access to all the UUSS email that has no doubt collected in my email in-box at church. I also apologize for any delay in hearing back from me. I hadn't realized that our computer system does not easily allow the sending of the "out of town" message that I composed before leaving. In any case, **I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you, and I hope you will check in with me this week or next week.**

Yours in service,

Roger Jones, Family Minister -- replies go to roger@uuss.org