

### Thanksgiving Award Nominations Due by October 14<sup>th</sup>

It's once again the time of year when we nominate a member or members of the church that have shown great service to the congregation. If you have someone in mind that you feel has gone above and beyond in their commitment to the church, please compose a nomination for them to be considered for the Thanksgiving Award. Nominations will be accepted until Monday October 10<sup>th</sup>. Nominations may be submitted to Nichole in the church office or may be emailed to her at [office@stocktonuu.org](mailto:office@stocktonuu.org). Thank you for taking the time to nominate a star among us that deserves recognition.



### Religious Education

Hello UU families! Welcome to Autumn at First UU Church of Stockton!

It has been so amazing and lovely to see so many of your familiar faces return to our Sunday services.

I'm happy to announce we will be bringing back the jack-o-lantern decorating and auctioning! The plan is to do this on Sunday the 30th. We will provide pumpkins and crafting materials, and will auction off the jack-o-lanterns to the congregation during coffee hour. The money raised will be used to purchase new toys & games for the RE program.

October 30th will also be the day our Dia de Los Muertos ofrenda table will be set up in the sanctuary. We invite families and individuals to bring photos of their departed loved ones to display during service.

Also, for any family that still needs to register— we still have our annual child safety/registration forms along with media release and consent forms. These will be handed out to each family on Sundays before or after church services.

As usual, Jessica and myself will be available on Sundays for childcare beginning at 10am. We are currently looking for people to sign up to volunteer for childcare on an as-needed basis. Please let one of us know if you're interested and we will take steps necessary to make that happen!

Please don't hesitate to email, call, or text me if you have any questions!

Mikayla Meyling (she/her)  
 Director of Religious Education  
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 Church phone: (209) 466-7743  
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## Unitarian Universalist Association Principles and Purposes

*We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote*

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in Society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

### Upcoming Sermons/Services: Masks Requested for Those Attending in-Person

Date	Topic	Worship Leader	Worship Associate
10/9	An Attitude of Love: Reflections on National Coming Out Day	Rev. Matt	Jan Vernor– Howard
10/16	Senior Memories		
10/23	Saving the World Through Our Actions	Rev. Matt	Cindy Milford
10/30	Fighting for Freedom		

### **Good Old Days**

We seniors at Stockton UU are being invited to share our memories of the “Old days at Stockton UU” at a Sunday church service on October 16. Thinking back over the years, what has been meaningful to you and what about the church have you been proud of. Rev. Matt said “I feel like telling our history and our stories is a very important service to have as well as helping us to know where we will go in the future as a congregational community.”

If you have a story to share, please contact Rosemary Atkinson at [rosymoonatk@gmail.com](mailto:rosymoonatk@gmail.com) or via phone: 209-471-9985.

Prepare your story about 3 minutes long. You can present it in person from the pulpit or you can write it up and have someone else deliver it for you. Then after the service we can visit over coffee about the “Good Old Days”.

## Social Justice News

**Your Social Justice Committee is busy!** On September 15th and 23rd we hosted two fun afternoons of nonpartisan **get out the vote postcard writing**, thanks to Gloria Smith's leadership. We had a great team of writers and produced lots of cards! Then on September 17th we again hosted a local **Coastal Clean-up** site on the Calaveras River in collaboration with the Sierra Club Delta-Sierra Group. We had a great turnout and collected close to 600 pounds of trash! We got great press coverage in The Record! Thanks go to Dick Abood, our site captain. On the same day, at our monthly "Eco Saturday" parking lot event we collected a total of \$37 in recyclables and lots of supplies for the ACT Spay and Neuter clinic. Thanks for your support! Join us again on **Saturday, October 15th from 9:30 - 11:30 am**. We'll be collecting recycling along with warm clothing to be donated to St. Mary's Dining Hall. For more information, contact Mary Bullard ([marybee2@gmail.com](mailto:marybee2@gmail.com)). We'll also be holding our "back by popular demand" **Poster, Button and Bumper Sticker Sale** in Jackson Hall during the parking lot event on **October 15th and after the service on the 16th**. Come help support our social justice efforts and express yourself! Finally, on **September 25th** we participated in the Stockton Pride Festival at the Stockton Ballroom! Many thanks go to Gloria Smith and Rev. Matt for their leadership at this event.

Our **shared offering** in September supported the Red Cross wildfire relief efforts. A total of \_\_\_\_ was collected. Thank you for your support! On Sunday, October 30th our shared offering will support our church's Family Promise effort. As a host church, we house unsheltered families at our church 4 weeks out of the year. Our dedicated crew of volunteers has identified a need for us to buy inflatable mattresses that will stay at our church. This offering will support that effort. If you're not able to attend on Sunday, feel free to send in your donation to the church office.

On **October 20th** at 7:00 pm we'll be holding our bimonthly Social Justice Committee planning meeting by Zoom. Join us! For more information contact Jeri Bigbee ([jeribigbee@gmail.com](mailto:jeribigbee@gmail.com)). Then on **Saturday, October 22nd** from 9:00 to noon we'll be cleaning up our **Adopt-a-Road** site on north West Lane. Contact Dick Abood ([raboody@pacific.com](mailto:raboody@pacific.com)) for more information.



## Personnel Committee News

This summer the Personnel Committee was reestablished. Our purpose is to support the staff and congregation, by ensuring an efficient, fair and safe workplace. We recently completed an updated Personnel Policy Manual, based on UUA guidelines. The Manual, which was approved by the Board in August, Includes some new requirements for staff, including periodic background checks, sexual harassment training (as required by new state law) and diversity/inclusion training. With religious education staff and administrators we are actively implementing policies required by another new state law, AB 506, which requires staff screening and training related to child abuse prevention and reporting. CPR training will also be required. Joyfully, we've been busy welcoming, onboarding and orienting our newest staff members, Rev. Pargeter-Villareal and Jordan Bell Souza, Music Director. The committee is collaborating closely with Rev. Matt, who serves as the supervisor of most of the staff members, in coordinating upcoming employee performance reviews. Input from members of the congregation is welcome. The members of the committee are Jeri Bigbee (chair), Carolyn Wischhusen, Dick Abood, Olivia Douglas, Matt Pargeter-Villareal (ex-officio), and Clair Trujillo (ex-officio). We are looking to add additional committee members, so if you're interested, please contact Jeri Bigbee ([jeribigbee@gmail.com](mailto:jeribigbee@gmail.com)).

## Bookstore News!

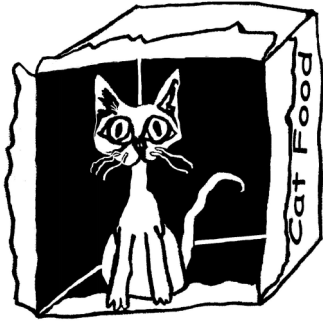
Big news! Your First UU Church Books and More Store is **BACK!!** We'll be open two Sundays per month (on the same Sundays that Rev. Matt preaches) in October (**10/9 and 10/23**) and November (**11/6 and 11/27**). Then in December (our busiest month!) we'll be open on **12/4, 12/11, and 12/18** for all your holiday shopping! Come by and check out all our wonderful books and gifts in Jackson Hall after the service. If you'd like to join our volunteer bookstore crew or for more information, contact Jeri Bigbee ([jeribigbee@gmail.com](mailto:jeribigbee@gmail.com)).

## Fig Jam & Chutney Sale



It's that time of the year again! Clair has been busy making delicious fig jam, low sugar fig jam and fig chutney. 100% of the proceeds go to supporting our church. Each jar is \$10.00. Jam will be for sale after church on most Sundays.





## THE ABANDONED CAT TEAM

327 E. Alpine Ave.  
Stockton, CA 95204  
209-462-7729

Email: [ACTClinic@att.net](mailto:ACTClinic@att.net)

Website: [www.ACatTeam.org](http://www.ACatTeam.org)

A 501(c)(3) non-profit rescue organization dedicated to ending the killing of animals as a means of population control

September 19, 2022

First Unitarian Universalist Church  
2737 Pacific Ave, Stockton, CA 95204

Re: Donation to ACT Spay/Neuter Clinic

To the Congregation -

Thank you for your donations to the ACT Spay and Neuter Clinic, operated by the Abandoned Cat Team, an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) charity. Donations such as yours enable ACT to continue providing low cost, high quality veterinary services to community members who cannot otherwise afford to get their dogs or cats fixed. In addition, with community support, ACT donates a below-cost price to people who bring feral cats in to be spayed or neutered. ACT also assists people in finding homes for their pet cats when they can no longer care for them. In its 13 years of operation, ACT has fixed over 93,000 animals and found homes for hundreds of cats.

With community and donor support such as yours, ACT can continue to provide one very important part of the solution to the tragedy of pet overpopulation in our municipal shelters. We realize that you have many choices in making your donations. Thank you so very much for thinking of ACT.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Pixler, Board President  
The Abandoned Cat Team  
[pixlers@comcast.net](mailto:pixlers@comcast.net)

Donation Description: In-Kind  
The Abandoned Cat Team and  
ACT Spay/Neuter Clinic are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
Federal Tax # 68-0454999

## **KEEP ON GIVING INTO THE FUTURE!**

Ensuring the long term strength of our church is important! We love our church, and give to it in so many ways—financially, volunteering, baking goodies, serving on committees, cleaning up—the list goes on. But there's one way to give that we don't often think about—giving after we're gone. Perhaps we don't want to consider our own mortality, or it seems too hard to figure out. But it's not that difficult.

Here are two easy ways to do it.

1. Add the First Unitarian Church to your Will or Trust. Wills and Trusts need to be reviewed and updated periodically, why not now? While your attorney can advise you, language in our trust is “. . . to the First Unitarian Church, current Tax ID Number 94-6184441, a non-profit corporation, located at the time of the execution of this trust at 2737 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204.” Note that the name is “First Unitarian Church”, which is our official name with the IRS.
2. Make the First Unitarian Church a beneficiary of an IRA, giving the same Information as above, especially the Tax ID. Since we are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, IRA money comes to us tax free, unlike other recipients who pay taxes on withdrawal. This can be done as simply as filling out a new beneficiary form.

If you decide to help First UU into the future, it would be great for the church to know about it!

If you have any questions, please contact Sara Milnes or Mary Bullard of the Finance Committee, and we'll do our best to help!

Sara Milnes



**Minister's Office Hours:**

**Rev. Matt's office hours will be Monday—Friday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm or by appointment.**

**Church office hours Monday & Thursday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**

The Mission of our church  
Is to nurture individual spiritual/ethical growth,  
to be inclusive of all people,  
and to be an active voice of conscience  
in the greater community.

**Minister**

Rev. Matthew Pargeter-Villarreal ..... 466-7743  
E-Mail.....m.pargetercillarreal@gmail.com

**Administrator**

Nichole Ybarra.....466-7743  
E-Mail.....office@stocktonuu.org

**Director of Religious Education**

Mikayla Meyling ..... 466-7743  
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**Music Director**

Jordan Bell-Souza ..... 466-7743  
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