

Sunday Services, January 2023



THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY
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January 8—Letters To My Younger Self Congregants & Friends of UUVerdugo

Forget about New Year's Resolutions—What would you tell an earlier version of yourself to inspire and encourage them, knowing what you know? UUVerdugo starts its year with this popular, entertaining, and thoughtful service.

January 15—Involuntary Attention: The Benefits of Our Relationship with Nature

Speaker: Prof. Bill Poehner

A walk down the canyon, a walk around the block—the flora within our zip codes can graduate from background scenery to trusted resources if we let them. Prof. Poehner shares literature and insight about the concept of "involuntary attention" and the relationship—intentional or not—we have with the nature in our neighborhoods.

January 22—A UU History Primer Speaker: Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford

While the combined practices of Unitarianism and Universalism—the famous UUs we keep hearing about—only merged in the 1960s, the individual traditions date back centuries. UU congregations now are a product of these vibrant, evolving, and sometimes contentious faith (or no-faith) practices. Rev. Dr. Betty returns with some well-studied perspective.

January 29—"People Are My Species": Get To Know Ruth Gordon Speaker: Marty Barrett

Writer, Actor, and Activist Ruth Gordon deserves your attention and, in a remarkable life, she got it.

JANUARY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
NO SERVICE UNTIL JAN. 8! 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
LETTERS TO MY YOUNGER SELF 10:30 POTLUCK! NOON 8	9	10	11	12	ASCENCIA FOOD PREP BAILEY FOOD DROPOFF 2-6 13	INTRO TO REIKI W. MARY MADILL 2 P.M. \$10 14
ZIP CODE FLORA BILL POEHNER 10:30 15	16	17	18	19	3RD FRIDAY POTLUCK! NOON 20	21
TUU HISTORY PRIMER REV. BETTY 10:30 22	23	24	MOVIE NIGHT! "NETWORK" 6:00 25	26	27	28
RUTH GORDON ARTIST/ACTIVIST W. MARTY BARRETT 10:30 29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Homemade
COFFEE MADE EASY

NOTE: THESE ARE PUBLIC EVENTS. PRIVATE RENTALS OR CHURCH-ONLY EVENTS ARE NOT LISTED ON THIS CALENDAR.

ZOOM SERVICE MEETING ROOM: 897 9181 4237 // PASSWORD: 935066

All the UUs
that's fit to
print.

from the Board President

Greetings Everyone,

While we all know we are living on Native American lands, I recently learned the street UUVerdugo is on was named for a person. Their last name is supposed to be Dunsmoor. It got misspelled somewhere along the way (like my last name). The ranch he owned back in 1873 was in Los Flores Canyon (now called Dunsmore Canyon), at Deukmejian Wilderness Park.

Having an interest in genealogy, I looked up the family on Ancestry.com. I found them in the 1880 census. The patriarch's occupation is "Apiarist." I have never heard of that word. A beekeeper. He was married and had two sons and three daughters.

They were here a few years and then sold the property to Dr. Benjamin Briggs—another familiar street name. Briggs had plans to create a new town called Crescenta. In 1886 Dr. Briggs sold to George Le Mesnager, a winery owner in Los Angeles. George's son Louis took over the vineyard and built a stone barn.

The stone barn is finally open at the park. Take a hike, have a picnic, and learn more about the history, land, and critters of La Crescenta.

Following the rabbit hole of research about the Dunsmoor family, James Franklin and his wife Hattie are buried at Evergreen Cemetery in Los Angeles. Their name is spelled correctly on the headstone.

Happy New Year 2023 is looking very exciting to me. I hope it is for all of you.

—Paula Hallowell

Social Justice

Thank you for a very productive and rewarding 2022. Join us January 14 for an appreciation dinner for all UUtheVote participants. Details below.

**UUtheVOTE Appreciation
BUFFET SUPPER
Saturday January 14, 2023 @ 5:00 pm
Friendship Hall**

This is a UUtheVote thank you event for letter and postcard writers, folders, stampers, donors, and supporters.

(Not a potluck)

Beverages of your choice welcomed.

Covid precautions followed.

**PLEASE RSVP ARPEGGIATA@YAHOO.COM
no Later than January 8**

—Madeline Dow



Ann Kleinsasser delivers the final service of 2022

Outreach & Sunday Services

Hello Friends,

As we collectively slid into home plate on 2022, I thought (briefly, because I am a brutish, non-reflective person with very little insight, a sloping forehead, and a tendency to bloody my knuckles on the ground whilst searching for groats and seeds) about the wonderful services and events UUVerdugo has hosted in the previous year. Lots of art, science, spirituality, and thoughtful explorations of the things that are important to us and the places where we want to improve.

I can't think of a single service that wasn't meaningful and spirited, whether delivered by our guests, visiting UU luminaries, or members of our own congregation. Add to that the raucous HUUTs, the return of students to the building in the form of the Urban Homeschoolers, the meals we cooked, the philanthropy we've engaged in, and numerous community events—from the vibrant Crescenta Valley Indivisible and Democratic Club meetings to fundraisers for local progressive organizations like STForward to opening the building for voting—and I am energized by the big part our little community is playing in these mysterious, haunted mountains. I also want to mention the hardy band of resolute who regularly attend our movie nights—watching a movie in Friendship Hall is better than doing it anywhere else simply because the floor isn't sticky and there are cheap snacks. Come for "Network" on the 25th, written by the great Paddy Chayevsky, who would have turned 100 later this month.

I'm very pleased, too, to see a number of people who would consider themselves Pew Averse (like myself) spending more time here. Believe me, if I could replace the pews with Adirondack chairs, bar stools, and Barcaloungers to make you feel more at home, I would. But this neighborhood is zoned for pews.

The HUUT returns for its fifth anniversary on February 18 with its Complicated Relationships Extravaganza, "Your Valentine Is Wrong." See you sUUn!

—Marty Barrett



Unitarian Universalist
Church of the Verdugo Hills

SUNDAY SERVICE & CHURCH SCHOOL 10:30 am
818-248-3954 WWW.UUVERDUGO.ORG