



THE SCENE AT SUMMIT

Newsletter of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
8778 Cottonwood Ave., Santee, CA 92071

Multi-Platform Sunday Services begin at 10:00 a.m.

Theme: Delight

June 4

“And Service Be Our Prayer: Reflections on Interfaith Shelter 2023”

Longtime Summit members Al Mork, Liz McHugh, Nancy Merrill, Don & Barbara Jania-Smith, Margo Mariana, Bekah Milhoan, & Sam Olin will share their perspectives on organizing and volunteering for the Summit Interfaith Shelter this year after a four-year hiatus. They will talk about their experience working with other churches, why they feel it's important to host the shelter at Summit, why they are committed to doing it, and some of the challenges and joys they experienced. They will touch on lessons they learned this year, ways that the Shelter experience could be improved. Our community bonds are strengthened by hearing about our members' experiences serving the homeless and other causes Summitarians are passionate about. In addition, there will be New Member Recognition.

June 11

“Bubbling with Delight: RE Family Sunday 2023”

Do you remember the wonder of childhood bubble blowing? When did you last watch a bubble float and swirl in the air? Have you ever seen a rainbow, or your own face reflected in the surface of this magical floating orb? We invite you to enter into this space of childlike wonder once again for our annual Religious Exploration Sunday Service. Summit's RE Families will be sharing their experiences of joy, delight and more as we welcome all to come blow some bubbles and play while we share stories, reflect and dream together.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will immediately follow this service.

June 18

"The Many Faces of Fatherhood"

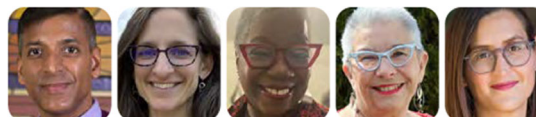
In honor of Father's Day, on several Summitarians will share their perspectives on fatherhood and fathering through the spoken word, poetry and music.

June 25

“Ever Willing: Becoming the People Our World Needs” GA Sunday Worship



The pandemic has wrought change and created uncertainty for institutions, like our Unitarian Universalist congregations, and our wider world. Who and what are we becoming, individually and collectively? Our GA Sunday service explores these themes as we gather in community to celebrate the best of who we UUs are **Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti; Stella Anderson; Janice Marie Johnson; Rev. Danielle DiBona; Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd**



Rev. Manish Mishra-Marzetti Stella Anderson Janice Marie Johnson Rev. Danielle DiBona Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd

ZOOM TIP:

For those of you who participate in services via Zoom, here is a link to instructions for configuring your Zoom settings to allow you to see both the presenter and what they share, at the same time. This side-by-side setting is available on newer versions of the desktop program, so please make sure you update your Zoom app. If you have questions please reach out to ryncorbeil@gmail.com

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004802843-Side-by-side-mode-for-screen-sharing>



If you missed a service, or would like to see it again, you can watch it on our [SUUF MEDIA](#) YouTube Channel!



Meet our New Minister! Saturday, June 3, 2023 at 10 am

You are invited to join us as we get to meet
KC Marie Pandell, our new minister, in person!

We will start in the Sanctuary, with conversation, question and answers, followed by a reception in the Salon. Our *amazing bakers*, Jenny Saar, Connie Henry and Loralisa Rocca, will be providing the treats!

For those of you who would like to join us on zoom, the link is:

<https://zoom.us/j/96459023656>

Meeting ID: 964 5902 3656

A HUGE Thank You!

This past year, our Ministerial Search Committee has been working very hard to find a new contract minister for Summit! This process started with extensive interviews with the congregation, to find out who we are in 2023, and what we are looking for in our next minister. (Thank you to everyone in the congregation who participated in this important process!) Next, the Search Committee put together a packet about who we are. Then ministerial candidates reviewed our packet and shared theirs with our team. Then came initial and secondary interviews, checking references, and finally making their recommendation to the Board. This process was time consuming, and the commitment of our Search Committee members went above and beyond!

Thank you to our Ministerial Search Committee members:

Amy Carstensen and Debbie Wingard, Co-Chairs, Jamie Cleland,
Pam Kerr, Pam Williams, Lara Barrett and Brian Reardon!



RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION NEWS—FOR ALL AGES

MARY CARTER-VAIL, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

It is a delight to hear new sounds in the sanctuary. You may have noticed sounds of children wriggling, parents shushing and all the noises that more bodies make in a shared space. These are the delightful sounds of new and abundant life. This is the shared experience of being in a community together.

Delight: When I think of the word delight, I think of “Turkish delight” from “*The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*” as that was the first time I had heard that word used for a candy. As a child I was always delighted by sweet things. I loved to get a piece of candy from my grandma’s candy jar when we visited her home and remembered the strawberry wrapped sweets as a very special treat. As soon as I was old enough, I started to learn to make treats with the bakers in my family and taught myself how to make candy. I loved turning simple ingredients like sugar into delightful creations like saltwater taffy. This led me to culinary school where I became a Pastry Chef and learned to create magical sugar sculptures that would delight hundreds of people with a hotel display during the holiday seasons. Delight is something that each of us can create with simple ingredients. It can be as complex as candy making or as simple as sharing a smile with a stranger. How do you experience delight? Are there ways that you create delight for others? Let us welcome more delight into our lives each day as we welcome the summer months.

New Families & New Growth: Last month we had three new families visit our fellowship and join right in as we created with clay, played in the garden and more. We are growing! You may have noticed more noise and movement during the service on Sundays, and more activity in the Salon during the social hour. These are all beautiful signs of a growing community. When we hear the questions from children, the babbling of babies and witness the adults stretching to share spaces with all ages, we know that we are a healthy, spiritual community that is living and growing in its mission to build a compassionate, just, and sustainable world. I invite you to welcome each child and each family with joy and delight.

UU Summer Sleep Over Camp: Summer is here and that means children will be at home or attending camp programs. Did you know that there is a UU camp?

Camp deBenneville Pines is our UU Camp up in the San Bernardino mountains that offers weeklong residential camps for all ages. There are three special camps: Elementary, Middle School & Sr High, that are weeklong camps for children or youth only offered in July. Mary will be on staff for Elementary & Sr High. If you have a child or youth interested, check it out at uucamp.org or talk to Mary for more details. Scholarships are available.

Our June Theme is Delight.

We will be gathering in RE at 10 am on Sundays for Religious Exploration. Our children and youth will be in the service until after the “Time for All Ages” story. We will then engage in our activities in the Religious Exploration area and/or outside (depending on weather conditions). We have a special snack provided by one of our families after our exploration time that we share outside under the shade canopy until we are finished at 11:30 am.

June 4 – What is Delight? – We will begin the month by exploring what delight means for each of us. This week we will begin to explore this new theme as we prepare for our Family RE service next week. Children will be leading the service on June 11th along with their families, so we will be practicing what to do as we get ready for next week. We will be reading special stories, creating affirmations, making artwork and getting everything ready to share with the congregation next week. This is our time to get ready to share our light with the rest of Summit.

June 11 - Bubbling with Delight: RE Family Sunday (*Our children and families will be leading the service this Sunday. Childcare will be available for children 3 and under in the Nursery.*)

Do you remember the wonder of childhood bubble blowing? When did you last watch a bubble float and swirl in the air? Have you ever seen a rainbow, or your own face reflected in the surface of this magical floating orb? We invite you to enter into this space of childlike wonder once again for our annual Religious Exploration Sunday Service. Summits RE Families will be sharing their experiences of joy, delight and more as we welcome all to come blow some bubbles and play while we share stories, reflect and dream together.

June 18 – RE Family End of the Year Bubble Making Party and Father’s Day!! – At the end of the school year we have a celebration as we delight in more family

time. This Sunday we will learn some bubble science as we discover what makes the best bubbles. Then we will gather all of the bubble wands, from tiny to HUGE, and head outside to make a fun, joyful, magical mess of floating rainbows that fill our garden and parking lot. After the service, families can bring special snacks to share for our annual end of the year party as we celebrate parents, fathering and the end of the school year together.

June 25 – GA Sunday – RE Plans TBD - Each year our Unitarian Universalist Association gathers for an annual conference where the business of the denomination is conducted, along with incredible spiritual offerings, including the annual worship service. This is a big service with thousands of UU's across the world participating in person and digitally. We will be joining in virtually from the sanctuary. *Mary is scheduled to be on vacation so watch your email for the RE plans for this Sunday.*

These are the plans at the beginning of the month, and they may be adapted as our community's needs adapt so, please watch the weekly Children's Religious Exploration Email. To receive the weekly email, send your email address to Mary at summitdre@gmail.com.

With deepest love and brightest blessings,

Mary

Mary Carter-Vail
she/they

Director of Religious Exploration



Congratulations to the Santee School District's Classified (Paraprofessional) Employee of the Year for 2022-23—our own **Cathy Young!** Cathy is one of our Nursery team, helping with our youngest week-in and week-out.

Children's Religious Exploration Committee

Mission Statement:

Our Mission is to create a safe and welcoming spiritual home for children & youth through creative exploration of the Unitarian Universalist Principles and Sources.

Message from the President of the Board



Dear Summitarians and Friends,

I can't believe it is already June! I am finishing up my third year on the Board, my first year as vice president, and the last two years as your Board President. What a ride it has been!

I started my time on the Board with Summit having just shifted to virtual-only services in a world of health unknowns. A bonus discovery was by having a virtual component to our worship, our out of town/state/country members and friends could still attend our services, as well as people who have been excluded from worship because they could not attend in person due to health or transportation issues. We discovered ways to make us more inclusive. Our Zoom team, especially **Tyler Mitchell**, **Ryn Corbeil** and **Erin Doherty** have been invaluable!

Our Safe Reopening Task Force researched and made recommendations for when and how we could come back together safely. We all learned so many new tech skills, and exercised a lot of out-of-the-box thinking when it came to our services, auctions, pledge drives, congregational meetings and more. We found new ways to stay connected to one another, and learned just how vital connections are in a world of isolation. The men's, women's and book groups shifted to virtual meetings, as did some of the covenant groups.

We had a half-time minister for the first two years, **Rev. Everett Howe**, who provided some sermons, committee support, and pastoral care. Linda Peck retired after 20 years. This year, we've had **Rev. Tania Márquez** provide pastoral care for us. We hired two new administrators, first **Loni Paine** and then **Nelwyn Del Frate**. Plus, during the first year, we paid off our mortgage!

Our Sunday Services team over the past three years has been AMAZING! **Joani Mountain**, **Katie Boskoff**, **Josh Barrett**, **Tyler Mitchell**, **Seraphina Galante**, **Carol Schnaubelt**, *and many, many more people* helped to arrange speakers (ministers, lecturers, storytellers, and Summitarians), plan the elements of the worship services, and serve as Service Associates during the service week in and week out. Thank you ALL! During our virtual-only times, our worship services were the glue that held us together!

This past year, as a re-opening, fully lay-led congregation, I had the privilege of watching many members and friends step up to help make things happen! For the first two years, the Board took the lead for the Auction and the Generosity Campaign. This year fresh energy took it back with enthusiasm and vision.

Social hour is back, too! Thank you to people who bring the refreshments, help with set-up and clean-up. (Could your committee or group help out once a month?) **Juana Page** has returned as our "Café Cat." One thing that I really missed in the virtual-only world was being able to have conversations with old friends and make new friends. Community time is vital.

Mary Carter-Vail has kept our Religious Exploration going non-stop during this whole time! The first year was virtual only. Kids who had zoom-school had a hard time with even more zoom.

The Summit Board of Directors meets virtually on the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm. If you would like to attend, please email Elinor to request the link at meweeder97@gmail.com.

So Mary shifted to Parking Lot RE for families on Sunday afternoons, leading the lessons herself every week. And our families brought friends, whose families are now very involved! You will have a chance to meet some of these new families on RE Sunday, June 11. This year, as we came back to worship in the Sanctuary, RE resumed to run concurrently. And more new families are visiting! (*Last Sunday, May 28, we had 17 children from 5-6 families! JOY!*) We will soon need to divide the children into several age groups/classes, and Mary will be looking for volunteers (including non-RE parents!!) to work with the children and youth. Prior to the Board, I spent nearly 20 years volunteering in RE—it is so rewarding! It's your turn. When invited, please consider saying "YES!"

Earlier this year, Summit once again hosted the Interfaith Shelter Network's guests for two weeks after a 2-year hiatus. Thank you to **Al Mork** and **Liz McHugh** for taking the lead on this, and to everyone who helped make it happen. It took a LOT of volunteer hours.

Our Property Steward, **Mark Weedman**, has helped us keep the building and grounds looking beautiful and in good repair. Mark is also present almost every Sunday, monitoring campus security during the services. He helped to prepare the RE area pre- and post-hosting our shelter guests.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Generosity Campaign this year! With your continued support, Summit will continue to grow and thrive!

I want to especially thank the members who worked behind the scenes to make this happen, starting with **Sandy Bernstein**, the chair of the Generosity Campaign. In addition, we had an amazing team of stewards, who gently nudged people to turn in their pledge forms and thanked people for their pledges. This team included Joe Adan, Carol Davis, Nancy Dewees, Janet Dixon, Seraphina Galante, Lisa Garvey, Dan Hand, Juana Page, Jim Park, Carol Schnaubelt, Mary Ellen Shu Pat Summers, Greg Williams, Pam Williams, and Carolyn Woodbury. A special shout out to Nelwyn Del Frate for awesome administrative support, and to Jenny Saar for the delicious and beautiful carrot cake for the campaign conclusion celebration.



Our Ministerial Search Committee has found a new minister for us! I am looking forward to meeting **KC Marie Pandell**, our new minister! She will start working with us part-time in August, and full time in September. I hope you will join us on June 3rd for a Saturday meet-and-greet at Summit and on zoom.

We will have our **Congregational Meeting on June 11**, following RE's worship service. At this meeting we will elect our new representatives for the Board of Directors, the Endowment Committee and the Nominating Committee, as well as approving our budget for next fiscal year (July 2023 through June 2024).

We have an amazing, healthy, vibrant Summit community! So many of you help out in so many ways! I *can't wait* to see what next year brings, and have the time to volunteer in new areas myself. It has been a privilege to serve you these past three years.



Peace,
Elinor Weed
She/They
(meweew97@gmail.com)

WELCOMING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

This has been a challenging year for Summit. We have been lay-lead for most of the year as we emerge from the restrictions of COVID. A core group of dedicated Summitarians and staff have stepped forward to make sure we could remain open and welcoming. The Welcoming and Membership Committee (W&M Committee) has played a very active role in this.

Jim Weed has greeted newcomers to Summit nearly every Sunday morning providing them with name tags and information about the Fellowship. The W&M Committee planned **and led** a worship service. Jim Weed led as the Service Associate. Carol Legard, Nancy Merrill, and Pam Williams reflected on what it means to be a member of Summit, and to be a Unitarian Universalist.

The Member Support Team was formed as a sub-committee led by Nancy Merrill. Nancy's Team included Betts McQuaide, Pat Summers, and Virginia McDonald. Margo Mariana has joined the team since Virginia McDonald has moved and has become inactive. They enthusiastically took on the task of contacting our membership to check in on how they are doing, especially those we haven't seen in a long time. Soon, they will renew this effort with outreach and information about our new minister, KC Marie Pandell.

We, the W&M Committee hosted a "Getting to Know Us" orientation for newcomers to Summit with very good response. Twelve newcomers came for a luncheon after the service on May 7th. Our president, Elinor Weed, a long time UU, talked about Unitarian Universalism, Pat Summers described Summit's history. And Jim Weed and Pam Williams explained the role of membership. With all the Committee participating and such a surprising turnout, the library was full, but with room enough for everyone to enjoy the event.



Debbie Kosmicki joined the W&M Committee as a newcomer herself. She maintains a database of newcomers and contacts them to welcome them to Summit.

Over the last several months the W&M Committee has volunteered once a month to help with Sunday Cafe. Pam Williams, Carol Legard, Wanjiru Warama, and Margo Mariana have helped Juana Page with the work.

The committee is also planning a New Member Ceremony for early fall when our new minister will be with us. We already have several folks patiently waiting to join. They are Mark Wheeler and Alix Hart, Peter and Carolyn Woodbury, Glenn and Stacey Sasaki, and Barbara Scheidker.

Former member, Andy Mitchell, as well as Carol Legard, and Margo Mariana have helped so much by keeping the congregation informed with articles in the E-news and the Scene.

You can see that all the members of the Welcoming & Membership Committee have played a role in making us have a successful year in a very trying time.

In Fellowship,

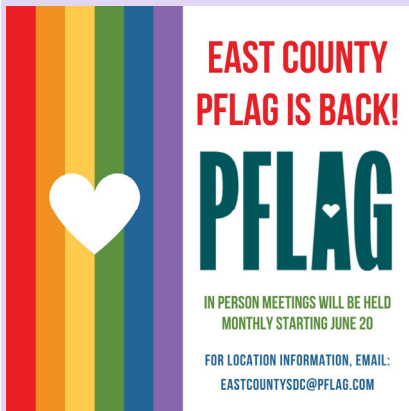
Jim Weed and Pam Williams, Co-Chairs of the Welcoming & Membership Committee Members: Barbara Jania-Smith, Carol Legard, Debbie Kosmicki, Nancy Merrill, and Wanjiru Warama



SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION

Social Justice in Action meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of the month. If you would like to learn more, contact our Chair, RynCorbeil@gmail.com. Everyone welcome!

General meeting — June 11, 12:30 pm <https://zoom.us/j/98852027774>



The Social Justice in Action committee is happy to announce the PFLAG SDC group, led for so long by Bob and Mary Dryden, is reforming in East County. We will be meeting in-person at Summit starting the fourth week of June (with plans to move to the new Lakeside library next year).

For details reach out to Ryn Corbeil at ryncorbeil@gmail.com or eastcountysdc@pflag.com for more information.

Santee Pride Walk

Supporting the LGBTQ+ Community... and Diversity and Inclusion in Santee

Sponsored by **Santee United Methodist Church**
8964 Magnolia Avenue • Santee, CA

June 10, 2023 12:30 - 1:00 Kick Off

Walkers will gather at Church parking lot behind the church off Park.
Route: South on Magnolia to Mission Gorge. West on Mission Gorge to Cuyamaca. Then East on Mission Gorge to Magnolia and back to the church.

Santee... show your support. Wear your colors, hang your flags.

The graphic features the word "PRIDE" in rainbow letters, "Santee" in a cursive font, and "DIVERSITY" in blue block letters. To the right is an illustration of people holding rainbow flags and making peace signs.

County of San Diego, Health & Human Services Agency



DONATION DRIVE TO SUPPORT ASYLUM SEEKERS

DEADLINE: JUNE 15TH 2023

Join us in sharing kindness to others by gathering urgent donations!

The Social Justice in Action Committee wants to let you know the County of San Diego Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs is coordinating a donation drive at ten county library branches from June 1st to June 15th. These supplies will support asylum-seekers in San Diego County.

Public Drop-Off

Donations from the community will be collected at the following branches through June 15th: Santee, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Bonita-Sunnyside, Imperial Beach, Encinitas, Solana Beach, Poway, San Marcos, Vista.

What items are needed for the donation drive?

Only **new and unopened** items are requested. The following items are most in need:

- ◆ Water
- ◆ Electrolyte drinks
- ◆ Baby formula
- ◆ Pop-top canned food
- ◆ Dry goods like granola bars, cereals
- ◆ Shelf stable food for infants and toddlers
- ◆ Squeezable food (like apple sauce)
- ◆ Individual ready-to-eat tuna
- ◆ Feminine hygiene items
- ◆ Blankets
- ◆ Body wipes/Baby wipes
- ◆ Diapers
- ◆ Toilet paper
- ◆ Tarps
- ◆ Ziploc bags/Trash bags

ADULT LIFE ENRICHMENT—AFFINITY GROUPS

THE SUMMIT WOMEN'S GROUP

This multi-generational group is open to all interested Summit women and their friends. The group will meet via Zoom. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list to get the Zoom link, please contact Carolyn Woodbury at cbwoodbury@gmail.com if you have questions.

Contact Carolyn to find out the date of our next meeting.



MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP #2

Summit's Second Men's Fellowship and Support Group meets on the 1st & 3rd Wed, from 7-8:30 pm. We invite you to join us if you wish. We are an "open" meeting in the sense that any man who wants to can participate if he so wishes.

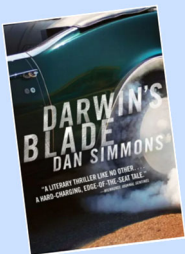
Our group is going to start meeting in person, in the Library. If you prefer, you may continue to join us online, too. You can use any Apple or PC/Android device (desktop computer, laptop, iPad or other tablet, smart phone) to access our meeting, but it must have a microphone and a camera.

To get the link, please email Denny at denny.braun@usfamily.net.



THE SUMMIT UU BOOK CLUB - MULTI-PLATFORM OPTIONS!

On Tuesday, May 2, at 7 pm, the Summit UU Book Club will be meeting both in person in the Library and via Zoom, hosted by Debbie Wingard. They will join the Zoom folks with an "owl" - a camera that turns to face the speaker. The people in the Library will be able to see and hear the people on Zoom, and vice-a-versa.



We will be discussing **DARWIN'S BLADE**, by Dan Simmons.

"A hair-raising adventure to satisfy the most discriminating reader." - Library Journal

In July, we will be discussing **THE RABBIT HUTCH**, by Tess Gunty .

Everyone is welcome, even new members - either to participate or listen. If you have any questions, please e-mail Cheryl at csmreck@outlook.com



– Cheryl Smrek



Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
8778 Cottonwood Ave.
Santee, CA 92071

OFFICE HOURS

Tues, Thurs, Fri — 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

PASTORAL CARE MINISTER

The Rev. Tania Márquez

RevTaniaMarquez@gmail.com

619-245-1476

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Mary Carter-Vail

619-562-0833, ex 205

SummitDRE@gmail.com

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Nelwyn Del Frate

619-562-0833, ex. 202

Summituuf@gmail.com

PROPERTY STEWARD

Mark Weedman

markatspectrum@hotmail.com

WEEKLY ENEWS EDITOR

Pam Kerr: SUUFVolunteer@yahoo.com

SCENE AT SUMMIT NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Elinor Weed: SUUFSceneNuus@gmail.com

Board of Trustees

Elinor Weed—*President*

Jenny Saar—*Vice President*

Erin Doherty—*Secretary*

Brenda McGuinness—*Treasurer*

Directors:

Ryn Corbeil, Seraphina Galante,
Sally Jackson, Al Mork, Mark Wheeler,

June

About SUUF Publications

Please send submissions for the monthly SCENE AT SUMMIT NEWSLETTER via e-mail on or soon after the 24th, to **SUUFSceneNuus@gmail.com**.

Please send submissions for the eNEWS, the weekly announcements, to **SUUFVolunteer@yahoo.com** by Tuesday noon. Check the eNEWS and website for additional news throughout the month.

If you have any questions, call the office, 619-562-0833, or e-mail us at **Summituuf@gmail.com**.