



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: Interdependence

April 7
“Blessed Eid”
KC Marie Pandell, Minister

Pastor KC takes us on a journey exploring the Muslim festival of Eid al-Fitr: Its history, importance, and how we may find inspiration for ourselves in their expressions of faith in this wonderful celebration.

April 14
“What Interdependence Really Means”
Peter Bolland, Guest Speaker

In the famous Flower Sermon, Buddha simply held up a flower and didn't say a word. The Zen tradition has used this story for centuries to make the point that nothing exists on its own—everything is because everything else is—a flower is really the sun, the rain, the soil, and the florist all present in this now moment together. Join us as we explore the idea of interdependent origination, and the many ways this fundamental orientation shapes our morals, ethics, and metaphysical stance in the world.

April 21
“Earth’s Mightiest Heroes”
KC Marie Pandell, Minister

There's only one place in our solar system, in all of the galaxies, that we know, without a doubt, can be home to the human race. In honor of Earth Day, we reflect on Unitarian Universalism's 7th Principle, and how it might help shape us as stewards of nature and our planet.



April 28
“Women's Work”
KC Marie Pandell, Minister

Liberation theology is all about God's work on the side of the oppressed, and a woman focused theology is no exception. Join Pastor KC for an exploration of how this theology has shown up in the lives of women, and the unique branch of Black women's theology that grew from it.

The Mission Statement of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
In spiritual community, we commit ourselves to building a compassionate, just and sustainable world.



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



KC's Korner

~ KC Marie Pandell, Minister

Dear Summitarians and Friends

hope you'll join us for these exciting subjects.

An "at the beginning" reminder this month:

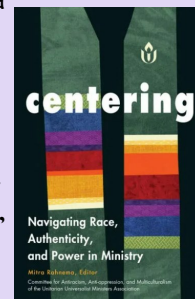
My regular office days are Tues/Thurs (please call ahead to be sure). **THIS April**, I have some slight changes the second week of the month – Monday and Tuesday April 8th and 9th will be my office days, as I will be away on other clergy business (it's a joy and honor to officiate weddings! I love weddings!)

Please always feel free to come by, for any needs, or even just to say hello. I'm still getting to know all of you, and would love to hear your thoughts/concerns/dreams for Summit and our time together. I don't know what I don't know, and I would love to know all of you more!

What an exciting pledge drive it's been! Not too shabby for a gal's first time – I am utterly grateful for the enthusiasm and care you continually show this community, and the verve with which you want to see it grow and flourish. Talk about sharing the good news – with a community like Summit, it's amazing more people haven't heard of us (but let's keep up the good work on that front). People are for sure missing out not being at SUUF, and I promise we're working on ways to get the word out – though suggestions are always welcome!

Which leads me into this month's theme: April is the theme of **Interdependence**, and the notion of all the ways we rely on each other and our world to thrive together. We'll hear a little about the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr (a personal family favorite), Peter Bolland will be joining us, and we'll be celebrating our Earth, and talking about what it's like to fight for Her, and hearing some more Liberation Theology. I

For April's Minister's Book Group (Apr. 21), we'll read something a little closer to home: Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry, edited by Mitra Rahnema, and featuring essays from various UU ministers (my friend and colleague Rev. Summer Albayati included (who'll you'll hear more about in "Blessed Eid"). One of my favorite seminary texts, which I'm looking forward to revisiting now.



Please remember that there are various opportunities to get involved in Summit: there are always committees looking for fresh ideas, and your presence is always welcome at our various Minister-run groups – I hope to see many more of you more regularly!

Blessings, and all of good thoughts,

Pastor KC
(714) 869-7645
summitminister@gmail.com

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor KC is delighted to receive your calls and emails. Her regular day off is Monday. She checks email on a limited basis on Friday, her study day. She is available for one-on-one meetings by appointment.

In Office Hours:

Tues: 10 am to Noon 2 pm to 5 pm
Thurs: 10 am to Noon 1pm to 5 pm

Zoom/Call/Etc (Zoom preferred):

Wed: 10 am to Noon 1 pm to-3 pm

Schedule an appointment: [Calendly Schedule](#)



Message from the President of the Board

Dear members, friends, and staff of Summit,

Spring is in the air. I can't tell you how happy I am to see the days growing longer, the air warming up, the hills turning five shades of green, and wildflowers starting to bloom. While the world is still in turmoil, my spirit is lifted by the changing season. Walking in nature is one of my favorite things to do. It reminds me of my place in the world and fills me with a sense of belonging. It reminds me of how dependent we all are on each other and the environment that surrounds us.

At the same time, I am feeling so sad about the loss of another member of our beloved community. Rachel DeWine died yesterday morning after a long decline in which she suffered illness, financial instability, and homelessness. She was a force at Summit; a quirky, funny, sometimes infuriating, and dedicated part of this congregation. I wish I could have done more to help her. She will not be soon forgotten.

The proposed values and covenant for the Unitarian Universalist Association (e.g., the proposed revisions to Article II of the bylaws) assert that "Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love." Six shared values grow from this foundation. One such value, interdependence, is Summit's theme/focus for the month of April. Interdependence means:

"We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it. We covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation. We will create and nurture sustainable relationships of care and respect, mutuality and justice. We will work to repair harm and damaged relationships."

Article II, final proposed revision

To understand interdependence is to realize that we are indeed responsible for the welfare of others and that we cannot thrive as individuals without caring for everyone and the environment we live in. At Summit, we have work to do. We are a congregation dedicated to Unitarian Universalist values and principles and have an active and hard-working Social Justice in Action committee. We have a loving Caring Committee that stays connected and aids members in need. I would also like to see us re-commit to being a Welcoming Congregation and becoming a certified Green Sanctuary through programs available at the UUA.

In addition, the Board of Directors are dedicated to improving our outreach to the local community and to east County through improved social media and our website. Elinor Weed is heading up a task force to implement these improvements. We need your help and ideas in this effort to get the word out to those seeking a religious community like ours. If you would like to be part of this effort, please contact me or Elinor Weed.

~ Carol Legard



LIFESPAN FAITH FORMATION NEWS

MARY CARTER-VAIL, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

It's "green and growing time" in our natural spaces and a beautiful time to explore personal growth for all ages. In San Diego,

March showers bring the April flowers, and we are ready to move from transformation to exploring our new theme: interdependence. For our children, youth and families, we do this through playing in the garden and supporting the beneficial insects, birds and critters by learning how we all need each other in the web of creation.

The Gift of Interdependence: Our new theme is inspired by the Article II values that we continue to explore this year. Article II defines Interdependence as follows:

"Interdependence: We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it.

We covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation. We will create and nurture sustainable relationships of care and respect, mutuality and justice. We will work to repair harm and damaged relationships."

Please note that these are big concepts for our youngest children so we will be exploring them in age-appropriate ways. We will start by creating our own understanding of these values and then dive a bit deeper as we work towards the promise of a Beloved Community.

This month we will be discovering our connection to interdependence by learning what it means and how we are connected to each other and the web of life. We will continue to use the outside spaces in the garden and be reconnecting with our inside spaces after sharing them with the Interfaith Shelter.

Soul Work: Our Soul Work Table has new content this month with the theme of Interdependence. We added some activities including web weaving plates. The stained-glass coloring pages and

embroidery hoops are still available as well. Take something to your seat as you listen to the service. The Soul Work Table and Cozy Corner are for all ages so please enjoy!

OWL – Our Whole Lives for Upper Elementary to begin this month! Watch your email for dates and times. There will be a parent meeting with information on April 14 with our first session on April 21 at noon. (Parent orientation meetings are required to be part of the program.)

Join us for All Ages Faith Formation at Summit: We are growing our Religious Exploration program and expanding to an all-ages Faith Formation program. Join us and consider being part of this important part of our congregational life. (Volunteers who work with children will need to be background checked and take Mandated Reporter training.) Contact Mary at summitdre@gmail.com to explore ways you can be part of Faith Formation at Summit.

Our April Theme is The Gift of Interdependence.

We will be gathering in RE at 10 am on Sundays for Religious Exploration on Sundays for our activities. Our children and youth will participate in the service until after the "Time for All Ages" story. We will then split into age centered groups to engage in our activities in the Religious Exploration area and/or outside (depending on weather conditions). After the service, we will be joining our families in the Salon for sustenance & community social time. Nursery childcare will be available until 12 noon.

April 7 – Interdependence - What is it? In this session, we begin to explore interdependence by figuring out what it means to us. We will explore the invisible web that connects us all through story and games and we begin the month in a fun way.

April 14 – The Web of Community - How we nurture it, and it nurtures us. In this session, using the metaphor of "pouring," we explore how our interdependence with our communities is such a

vital part of our understanding of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. Kids will explore the many ways we can contribute and pour ourselves into our faith communities and how our communities pour their support, wisdom, concern into us, filling up our cups. Have you filled your bucket today?

April 21 – Caring for the Web of Creation. This is Earth Day Sunday so we will be exploring the natural world with a scavenger hunt and by making an insect habitat for our garden space and to take home.

April 28 – How the Web of Creation Cares for Us. We will end the month by exploring some of the many ways our Earth takes care of us. We will

make some sunburn gel from Aloe Vera, try some nettle herbal tea and create some clay leaf prints to decorate our garden spaces.

These are the plans at the beginning of the month, and they may be adapted as our community 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



OUR WHOLE LIVES: 4-6

Our Whole Lives (OWL): Sexuality Education for Grades 4-6 is a positive, comprehensive, and age-appropriate education program and is based on the belief that sexuality is a lifelong process about acquiring information and forming attitudes and values about identity and relationships, intimacy and health. Our Whole Lives provides families with information and support. It offers a safe place to begin ongoing conversations.



OWL Information Meeting

Sunday, April 14 @ 12 noon at
Summit UU Fellowship in the Sanctuary
RSVP to SummitDRE@gmail.com.
Childcare available ONLY via RSVP.

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.

A New Beginning for Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Dear Summit Members and Friends,

Here we are in April, and we should be ending our Pledge Drive.

For the 60 of you that have made your pledge: *Thank you for your Generosity!* The average pledge so far is \$3,652, which is very good and encouraging. As of this printing, we have collected pledges totaling \$219,112! *We are 85% of the way to our goal!* We just have over \$41,000 to go.

Yet we still need to hear from many more of you to reach our goal of \$260,850.

Please show your support by joining us, by giving a pledge. We have asked folks in our community to consider what Summit means to them, to understand that together, **WE** are the ones who pay Summit's bills – and we do so living within our (Summit's) means, based on the congregationally approved budget each June. We invite you to make a pledge that will make you feel good. So, if you are willing and able, *now this is the time to make (or increase) a pledge.*

The infographic has a light blue background. At the top, it says "A New Beginning for Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Annual Stewardship Campaign 2024-2025" in green and black. On the left is a photo of the Summit building. In the center is the logo and the date "March 31, 2024". Below that, it lists "Number of Pledge Units: 60" and "Average Pledge: \$3,652". On the right is a thermometer-style progress bar showing 85% completion towards a goal of \$260,850, with \$219,112 collected. The text "Powered by Societ" is at the bottom right.

A New Beginning
for Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Annual Stewardship Campaign 2024-2025

March 31, 2024

Number of Pledge Units: 60

Average Pledge: \$3,652

Goal: \$260850
\$219112
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
Powered by Societ

If you would like to maintain your current pledge for another year and have not yet filled out a new pledge form, please email Nelwyn in the Summit Office (SummitUUF@gmail.com) to let her know! Working together, every little bit adds up.

At the end of the SCENE you will find our original Pledge letter, as well as our Pledge form. The letter will give you more information about why we ask. The form is for your convenience. The second page of the form only needs to be filled out if you want an electronic transfer.

We are available to answer any questions or concerns that you might have.

Looking forward to a successful completion of this Generosity Campaign.

Yours in Fellowship,
Co-Chairs of our Generosity Campaign
Pam Williams. Sandy Bernstein
619-867-9120 619-582-4223
24002400highview@gmail.com Sbernstein@sdsu.edu

WELCOMING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HAPPENINGS

One of the Unitarian Universalist principles is “the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.” At Summit, we practice this principal at our Annual Congregational Meeting each June. At this meeting, members vote to approve the budget, elect Board and Nominating Committee members for the next year and more. (If you are not yet a member and want to be able to vote and have a say in Summit’s direction, you need to become a member at least 30 days before the meeting – so by early May, 2024.)

Anyone aged 16 (sixteen) or older may be considered a member of Summit by doing the following:

1. Acknowledge their sympathy with its missions and programs
2. Sign the membership book
3. Actively participate in the life and work of the Fellowship
4. Make a written pledge for each year in which they wish to maintain their membership. (A pledge may be a zero-dollar amount or a pledge of time and effort.)

So, if you are interested in membership, feel free to contact KC or me. You can also join the Welcoming and Membership Committee for our upcoming event. Our minister KC, Summit leadership, and members of the Welcoming and Membership Committee will be in attendance.

What: **GET TO KNOW US: AN ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS TO SUMMIT**
Learn more about Summit’s history and Unitarian Universalism at this event.

When: Sunday, April 28th at 11:30 AM

Where: In the Summit Library and on Zoom.
Food and beverages will be available, too, for those in person.

RSVP to: Jim Weed at HDSurf@aol.com.

We hope to see you there!

Jim Weed, Chair, Membership & Welcoming Committee



SOCIAL MEDIA AS A WAY TO GROW SUMMIT!

Unitarian Universalism is the best kept secret. Yet we have something amazing to offer so many people! We are launching our Social Media Committee so Summit can have a team working in a coordinated effort to get the word out about our community. This includes preparing items to post, keeping our website up to date, If YOU are interested in working on these kinds of projects, please contact Elinor Weed at meweew97@gmail.com.

🌀 SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION 🌀

Starting March, 2024, Social Justice in Action meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of the month, starting at 12 Noon (Earlier time) in the Summit Library. A hybrid format utilizing Zoom will still be available.. If you would like to learn more, contact summitsjia@gmail.com. Everyone welcome!

The next SJiA meeting will be Sunday, April 14, at 12 Noon
in the Library and on zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/98852027774>

Sponsored by the Social Justice in Action Committee, PFLAG meetings continue on the third Tuesday of the month. All parents, friends, and allies of the LGBTQ+ community are welcome to attend.

For times and location please contact Ryn Corbeil or email eastcountysdc@pflag.com.

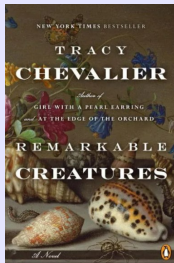
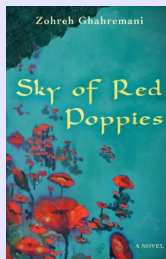


ADULT LIFE ENRICHMENT

THE SUMMIT UU BOOK CLUB MULTI-PLATFORM OPTIONS!

The Summit UU Book Club meets on the First Tuesday, at 7 pm. The group meets both in person in the Library and via Zoom, hosted by Debbie Wingard.

April 2 we will be discussing
Sky of Red Poppies,
by Zohreh Ghahremani



Next month, on May 7
we will be discussing
Remarkable Creatures,
by Tracy Chevalier

Everyone is welcome, even new members - either to participate or listen. If you have any questions, please ask Cheryl at esmreck@outlook.com
– Cheryl Smrek



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Pastor KC, Facilitator

KC leads a Grief Group for Summitarians and friends who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The group will meet on the 2nd Sunday (on April 14) in the Sanctuary at Noon.

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.



WEDNESDAY MORNING CONVERSATIONS



We meet on Zoom and discuss what is in our hearts and on our minds. We are open to new folks joining. It's informal, bring a topic you'd like to discuss, or just come in to hang out. It's a good chance to hang out with other Summitarians that you might not get to see otherwise. Our minister, KC Marie Pandell, will be joining us on the 3rd Wed. of the month. Spread the word.

Wednesday mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m. PDT

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/93838510596>

Meeting ID: 938 3851 0596

If you would like a reminder on Tuesday evening with the zoom link, let Pam know:
SuufVolunteer@yahoo.com

THE SUMMIT TUESDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP IS

now hosting open house meetings on the last Tuesday of each month. Any and all men in the Summit community are invited. The next OPEN HOUSE meeting is Tuesday January 30th in the library at Summit.

We are a supportive circle of men who share and listen to each other. We invite you to visit with us. Interested men may contact Mark Weedman for details, (619) 334-5300 or markatpsectrum@hotmail.com.

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.



Denominational News

YOU → Summit UU Fellowship → SD Cluster →

Pacific SW Service Area → Pacific Western Region → Unitarian Universalist Association

PWR Regional Assembly: Registration Now Open!

Mark your calendars for April 19-20, 2024!

Elevate your Unitarian Universalist experience by immersing yourself in the 2024 Pacific Western Regional Assembly. This is more about more than geography; it's a community of individuals like you, representing local UU congregations and communities. Your active involvement is not just valued – it's indispensable. Whether you choose to participate virtually or in-person at the inspiring First Universalist Church in Denver, this gathering promises an enriching and enjoyable experience, fostering connections among individuals and congregations.

Join the excitement as we come together with the MidAmerica Region of the UUA for shared programming, strengthening ties across our regions. Friday evening kicks off with a compelling keynote conversation between our UUA president, Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, and the new President and General Minister of the United Church of Christ, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson – both remarkable women of color dedicated to justice work.



Saturday unfolds with workshops, conversational gatherings, a special luncheon, and a pivotal Transitions Update. While the official Regional Assembly concludes on Saturday afternoon, those extending their stay can savor dinner connections in Denver on Saturday evening. On Sunday morning, local UU congregations open their doors for special Earth Day worship, creating a family-friendly environment. Many RA events are suitable for all ages and child care will be provided as well.

[Registration for Regional Assembly is open!](#) Be part of the intricate web of connections! Whether you aspire to be a discussion leader, a workshop facilitator, or contribute in various other roles, your involvement is welcomed. Reach out to Rev. Sarah Schurr at sschurr@uua.org to offer your time and skills, and/or if you have questions you would like for us to pose to Rev. Dr. Sofia and Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION IS OPEN LOVE UNITES, STORIES IGNITE

In a world filled with division and challenges, the theme for this year's General Assembly is a powerful reminder of the core principles that unite us as Unitarian Universalists. "Love Unites, Stories Ignite" celebrates the profound impact of love as a binding force that transcends boundaries and fosters connections within our faith community and beyond.

Our faith has always been rooted in the power of storytelling, and this year we'll explore how our stories can ignite change, inspire compassion, and help us build a more just and equitable world. Through storytelling, we share our experiences, our dreams, our struggles, and our triumphs. It is through these stories that we can find common ground, deepening our understanding of one another and the world around us.

The 63rd General Assembly will take place virtually **Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23, 2024.** [Registration](#) is open – through May 15 is \$315 and provides access to over a hundred workshops, special lectures, worship services, and (new) cohort groups – over a dozen groups where you can virtually gather with others interested in similar areas of congregational life. Or you can register to attend the business sessions-only for a donation. If you would like to vote in the business meetings, contact Carol Legard to ask about being a Delegate for Summit (we get 3)!

You may now [view the GA schedule](#) to see the lineup of informative workshops, inspirational worship services, and more!





A New Beginning for Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Annual Stewardship Campaign 2024-2025

Excitement abounds at Summit UU Fellowship, where our new minister KC Marie Pandell has rejuvenated our Sunday worship, our commitment to service, and our outreach to all those who seek a liberal spiritual home.

Summit's New Minister Brings New Vision- A Message from Pastor KC

My vision for Summit in the coming years centers around how our congregation wants to show up in the world, and for the world. We are a people whose faith is centered in LOVE, and I know we can show that to the world. I wholeheartedly embrace us becoming "The Safe Congregation", with folks from marginalized communities knowing that we are loving, accepting, and have room in this home to make it their home, too. Our children and those of new families will remain loved, valued, and cared for as members of the community. I



want to challenge us (myself included) to work to grow ourselves theologically, and grow in our understanding of spirituality (ours, and others'). Summit needs to be out in the world carrying the banner for liberation, but also serving as a soft place to land for people in need of support and care. Let us not just uphold our covenants, but let us be wholly, holistically accountable when we fall short (because we're imperfect, and we will). These things take a bravery and vulnerability that I know this community has -- so let's embrace it!

We are so good at being Summit -- how do we let people hear the good news of who we are, and how we can show up for them? I want us to be a community full of ideas, collaboration, co-ministry, and above all: love (which we definitely are). Let's show the world who we are, together!

Reshaping Summit Through Volunteerism- *Calling All Superheroes!*

With our new Minister and a small but dedicated staff, Summit is dependent on member volunteers to develop and carry out our vision and mission as a liberal religious community. The all-volunteer Board of Directors works closely with Pastor KC to determine priorities and goals for our fellowship. Likewise, volunteers have stepped into roles like managing the budget and Sunday services, and leading the annual stewardship campaign, the auction, the Interfaith Shelter and many other social and community-oriented efforts. Summit has the strength to feed your soul in return for your efforts.



Our Actions Speak to Our Commitment:

- **WORSHIPING TOGETHER.** Our amazing Sunday Service Committee continues to provide stimulating services, now strengthened by our new minister. We meet in person, on Zoom or in recorded form on our YouTube channel.
- **INVIGORATING THE NEXT GENERATION.** We continue to seek and attract children and youth to our congregation. Our Director of Religious Exploration, Mary Carter-Vail, is highly regarded by our faith as a leader in RE development and implementation.
- **INTERFAITH SHELTER.** Summit is only one of four East County religious organizations hosting the Shelter this year. More than half of San Diego County participating congregations have dropped out due to financial or space constraints. We serve the unhoused with food, shelter, human warmth and professional counseling.
- **COMMUNITY OUTREACH.** Summit's Social Justice in Action Committee has organized participation in San Diego's Pride Parade as well as Santee's first such event. A table at Lakeside's Spirit of Christmas educated the community about our congregation. Food and toiletry drives have aided local persons in need. Summit hosts PFLAG and acts as a polling place. Service is our prayer.



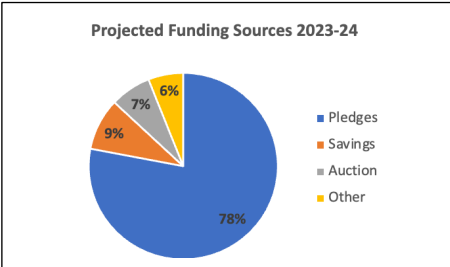
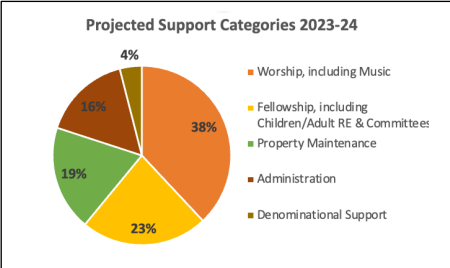
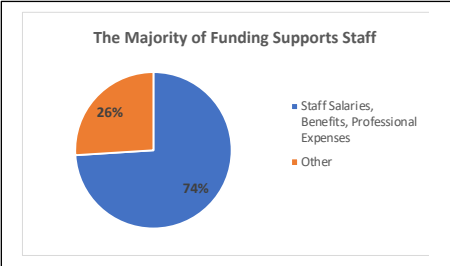
Programmatic Goals for Our New Beginning:

- ENHANCING THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR NEW MINISTER.**
 As Pastor KC continues to learn about us and our goals, we look forward to her ideas and initiatives to build a stronger beloved community at Summit.
- INCREASING AND DIVERSIFYING OUR CONGREGATION.**
 With the pandemic largely behind us and new remote technology in hand, we seek to build back up our congregation with those who will thrive and invigorate us. This includes more younger worshippers, people of color and LGBTQ+ community members.
- INCREASED EDUCATIONAL AND SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES.** Enhanced adult educational programs that include spiritual, practical and social activities.
- LEADERSHIP FOR SOCIETAL IMPROVEMENT IN EAST COUNTY.** Summit seeks to be an organization that people appreciate and turn to for identifying and fighting discrimination in east county.



Financial Goals for Our New Beginning:

- MOST OF OUR FUNDING PAYS STAFF.** As a volunteer organization, Summit keeps expenses to a minimum. As depicted in the top graph, our major expense is for our outstanding staff members who provide ministry, religious education, music, childcare, administration and facility maintenance (through careful planning and fundraising, we own our facility outright). The Finance Committee has set a campaign goal of \$263,500, a modest 6% increase over current pledging levels to meet the projected support categories (middle graph).
- DOING YOUR PART.** As depicted in the bottom graph, the annual campaign is the major source of funding for Summit. The average pledge last year was over \$3100. Please see the attached “How Much is My Fair Share” document to help you consider what you should give. You will note that Summit is dependent upon a small number of high-level pledges, which can present a precarious situation. Please seriously consider how much Summit means to you and what you will be able to generously donate.



- **GIVING CAN HELP YOU!** All donations can be tax deductible and Required Minimum Distributions from your IRA can be made directly to Summit (talk to your tax professional for guidance). Further, several studies have shown that giving improves happiness, social connection and health! Know that giving volunteer time and financial support as you are willing and able is immensely appreciated by your friends at Summit!

Please Join Summit's New Beginning!

Thank You for Being Part of Summit's Family!

Carol Legard, President

KC Marie Pandell, Minister

Pam Williams & Sandy Bernstein, Annual Campaign Chairs

The Mission Statement of Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship:

In spiritual community, we commit ourselves to building a compassionate, just, and sustainable world.





Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

How Much is My Fair Share?

Fair share pledging means giving generously according to our commitment and our means. We are grateful for every commitment and every gift.

ACTUAL 2023-24 PLEDGES
Per Individual Member

\$244,589 pledged from 78 households (average pledge **\$3,136**)

2024-25 TARGETS

Increasing our giving is necessary for us to pay our full-time minister, and will allow us to recommit to the ministries of Summit that further our mission.



Red is if you have a good income or pension, or income-producing assets. Red contributors have discretionary income. The pandemic may not have disrupted your income. Red-hued members pledge is \$5,000 to \$20,000, or more, per year.

Red:
\$143,745 pledged from 13 households (average pledge **\$11,057**)

We encourage at least three more members to join those who make the largest gifts.



Magenta is like red, only a little bluer. Magenta means you generally have enough money to meet your needs. You might have children in college, or other obligations that reduce your discretionary spending. You usually pay bills on time. A magenta-hued pledge is \$2,000 to \$4,999 per year.

Magenta
\$68,969 pledged from 24 households (average pledge **\$2,874**)

We hope some Magenta givers will be able to make double-digit percentage increases from 10% on up. Double your pledge and join red!



Purple is a beautiful and mysterious color. Purple may be living on a fixed income. You may have income that's up one year and down the next. You may live modestly. You may be helping other members of the family. A purple-hued pledge is \$1,000 to \$1,999 per year.

Purple
\$19,100 pledged from 14 households (average pledge **\$1,364**)

Once purple, always purple! If you can stretch to a larger gift, thank you!



Blue does not have a lot of money to spare. Blue may be paying off loans or living on a very modest income. Blue is beautiful and treasured, and a valued part of our community. Blue-hued pledges are \$500 to \$999 per year.

Blue
\$7,250 pledged from 11 households (average pledge **\$659**)

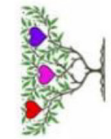
Blue and Green
We hope you can sustain, or make a larger gift. We understand times may be tough.



Green is the vibrant color of new growth. You may be just starting out on your own, or have very tight finances. For some greens, perhaps this is the first time you have ever pledged, and can only donate the equivalent of 1-2 cups of coffee each week. Green-hued pledges are \$100-\$499 per year.

Green
\$5,525 pledged from 16 households (average pledge **\$345**)

We are so grateful for what everyone gives and brings to our community!



Planned gifts will live on to support our future. Legacy donors work with an attorney or financial planner to determine the size of a bequest or insurance designation with which they are comfortable. Your bequest will become part of our legacy fund.

16 members have informed us of their planned gifts.

Consider a provision in your will designating SUUF as an account, annuity, or insurance beneficiary, or donating securities or property.

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



PLEDGE FORM
A NEW BEGINNING
Fiscal Year 2024-2025
July 2024 through June 2025

Email: summituuf@gmail.com
Phone: 619-562-0833

Financial pledges are essential for the continued operation of our fellowship, and will also be essential to indicate that we can support a new minister. Your pledge, however, only indicates an *intention* to contribute the amount you write in; this information helps us plan for the coming year. We understand that circumstances may change, and you can increase, reduce, or cancel your pledge at any time.

For Summit members, your completion of this pledge form is required each year in order for you to be counted

as a voting member. However, if a financial contribution is not possible for you this year, you will still qualify to be a voting member with a pledge of zero dollars together with a pledge of time and effort.

So we ask you to pledge financially as you are able, and to give generously – financially and in other ways – whenever possible. Thank you for all of your gifts. They are greatly appreciated, and some may even be tax deductible!

∞ From Your Summit Board of Directors

MY/OUR ANNUAL COMMITMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

Name 1: _____ Name 2: _____
Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____
Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____
Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Part A: Please indicate your pledge below by providing the following information (check all that apply):

- I/We commit to support Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship with gifts of time and effort.
- I/We commit to support Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship's annual operation in FY 24-25 with financial contributions totaling \$ _____.

Signature 1: _____ Date: _____

Signature 2: _____ Date: _____

Part B: Automatic Payments

- I/We would like to have payments automatically withdrawn from our bank account:
From the same account as last year's pledge, for the same amount and frequency.

From a different account or for a different amount or frequency than last year, fill out the attached withdrawal form and mail it to the Summit Office.

Part C: Have You Considered Making a Planned Gift?

- I/We have named Summit UU Fellowship as a beneficiary in my will, of an insurance policy, retirement plan, or life income plan (e.g. Charitable Gift Annuity or trust).
- I/We would like to find out more about how to include Summit in my/our estate planning.



When completed, please email your form to the Summit Office: SummitUUF@gmail.com,
or mail to SUUF, 8778 Cottonwood Ave., Santee, CA 92071

The commitments on this pledge form only indicate an intention to contribute for purposes of budgetary planning. It is not a legal document and will not be considered or enforced as such.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Organization Name: Summit Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Customer Id # N/A		DATE	
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____			
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change payment amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change payment date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic payment			
Last Name		First Name	
Address			
City		State	Zip
Email Address			
Payment Frequency: <input type="checkbox"/> one-time <input type="checkbox"/> Recurring (select one)- <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Date of one time payment: ____/____/____ Amount : \$_____			
Date of first payment: ____/____/____ Amount of recurring payment: \$_____			
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit payment from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (staple a voided check below)		Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization. Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____		
CREDIT/DEBIT CARD	Please charge my payment to my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Card		
	Credit Card Number:		Expiration Date:
	Name on Card:		
	Billing Address (if different from above):		
	I authorize the above organization to charge my credit card in accordance with the information above. Signature (as it appears on the credit card): _____ Date: _____		

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check over the credit card section.



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

OFFICE HOURS

Tues, Wed, Fri — 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

MINISTER

KC Pandell

SummitMinister@gmail.com

[Calendly Schedule](#)

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

Carol Legard—*President*

Jenny Saar—*Vice President*

Lisa Garvey—*Secretary*

Brenda McGuinness—*Treasurer*

Directors;

Ryn Corbeil, Seraphina Galante,

Sally Jackson, Al Mork, VACANT

April, 2024

About SUUF Publications

Please send submissions for the monthly SCENE AT SUMMIT NEWSLETTER via e-mail on or soon after the 25th, 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.