



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: Invitation

September 1

“Invitation to Wonder”

KC Marie Pandell, Minister

An important part of looking toward the future includes looking at where we've been; before we can dream new possibilities, we must understand where we come from. Join Pastor KC and Elinor Weed as they bring their own wonderings from Meadville Lombard's Faith Formation intensive, and invite us all to wonder, together.

September 8

“The Humbling River”

KC Marie Pandell, Minister

Water is one of the crucial needs for our survival; it is also historically seen as nourishing and cleansing. In some ways, water can be a great equalizer. Join us in celebrating our annual Water Communion, and the celebration of our returning together for the new faith year. Please feel free to bring water you've collected to use for our ritual.



September 15

“Freed Between the Lines: Interpretation Through Lived Experience”

KC Marie Pandell, Minister

This year's Banned Books Week theme is "Freed Between the Lines". The voices of marginalized people, particularly those in the LGBTQ+ community, have come under constant attack in schools and the political sphere, and books are one way those attacks have continued to come. Our stories are an important point of connection, and today, we explore how books, perhaps especially banned ones, can help us all on the path to liberation.

September 22

“Mabon for the Soul”

KC Marie Pandell, Minister

Mabon is the pagan celebration of the harvest, coinciding with the Autumn Equinox. Most people don't find themselves harvesting much these days, but for a celebration that marks gratitude for a good harvest, perhaps we can find ways to harvest something of our own. Join Pastor KC in this celebration of harvesting things to be thankful for.

September 29

“Bridge the Gap”

Social Justice in Action Committee

Addressing mental health concerns and currently available mental health care options in San Diego, regarding the challenges facing residents with housing insecurity, high cost of living, and those that are unhoused.

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:

Oh, how I've missed seeing you all, spending time in this community, and continuing to learn and grow with you all. I've been back at it since Aug 20, and I have heard such wonderful things about this community's life during my time away. I've heard your summer worship services were meaningful and enjoyable, and that it all went off without a hitch – I'm thrilled to know that, and so grateful for a worship team that can do such wonderful things together. I know some of this summer was difficult and painful, as well – please know I've been holding you all in my heart. I know this community is loving & supportive, and am certain that you have all been a great comfort to one another.

My time on vacation was lovely & refreshing, and my study leave was illuminating and thought provoking – I'm so grateful to work for and with a community that allows me the privilege and space to engage in those things (and thrilled, yes, to have seen many plays while abroad). I'm looking forward to sharing some of my learnings from my time away. I also deeply appreciate the well wishes before I left abroad, and the ones for my father's surgery – he's at home, recovering well, and working on bending that new knee. I appreciate a community that allows me to support you all, and him (and truly, thank goodness for the Internet, and Zoom – Ministry can happen anywhere with just those tools!)

As it turns out, I'm apparently a perpetual student, and I've begun another class that I hope will increase my skill set; I know it will bring things with it that will enrich and stretch this wonderful Summit community. This means, however, I will be out of the office for a few days in October for the intensive portion of the

course (Oct 14-18); please remember that I'm available as needed, especially for pastoral needs, I just won't be in person that week. Please email/text/call with any needs.

The time Mary, Elinor & I spent in Chicago was incredible, deeply nourishing, and fruitful. I have no doubt I speak for all three of us when I say we're thrilled to bring things from that course to all of you for us to experiment and play with, and I wholeheartedly invite all of you to wonder and explore with us.

I'm looking forward to the next 10 months together. I can't wait to see what places we will dream into being together.

Pastor KC

(714) 869-7645

summitminister@gmail.com

[Calendly Schedule](#)

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](#)



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

~ DEBBIE WINGARD, BOARD PRESIDENT ~

Dear Friends,

A new Fellowship year is starting!

KC is back from vacation/

study leave and will be ordained on October 26th! Duncan Matthew has joined Summit as our new Music Director!

By way of introduction, Duncan Matthew has a master's degree in choral directing, a bachelor's degree in vocal performance, three years of experience as a music director, and a love of music. Everyone we spoke to enthusiastically recommended him. We are excited to welcome Duncan, and he is excited to join us! In addition to growing our small but mighty choir, Duncan will be enhancing our Sunday services by expanding our musical offerings and bringing in guest musicians. Welcome Duncan!

Auction plans are in full swing! Look for details in the auction article and let Shannyn Allen or myself know if you would like to help.

The Board of Directors will be having a retreat later in September to get to know one another and to set our goals for the coming year. Let me know if there are any specific goals you would like us to consider! Personally, I am looking forward to a year of spiritual growth, continued fellowship, exciting new music, and a welcoming of new members to share in this wonderful community.

With love and appreciation for everyone,

Debbie



Please join us in welcoming Summit's new Music Director, Duncan Matthew!

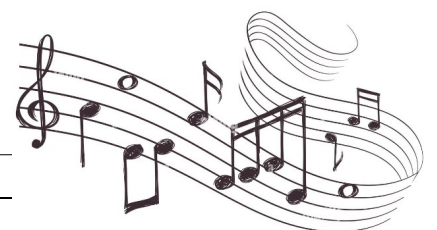


Duncan is an educator, conductor, and singer. Originally from Pueblo, Colorado, he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in voice performance from Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, Minnesota. As a recent graduate of Florida State University with a Masters' of Music in choral conducting, he is excited to be teaching choir this year at California State University San Marcos.

Outside of music, Duncan enjoys designing, sewing, weight training, and spending time with his family. He recently moved to San Diego this past June with his partner Ramon, and their two corgis Noodle and Soup.

The Summit Choir will be rehearsing on Wednesday evenings in the Sanctuary from 6:30-8pm. Please come if you are interested in joining the Choir!

Duncan can be reached by email at Duncan.matthew49@gmail.com.





LIFESPAN FAITH FORMATION NEWS

MARY CARTER-VAIL, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Children are back in school, and we are finally getting a slight cool off in the air as the heat of the summer begins to give way to the coming cooler part

of the year. Folks are also returning to Summit as we welcome back Pastor KC from her summer adventures and prepare for the celebration of her ordination in October. This is the perfect time for our new theme: Invitation.

Invitation to Wonder: Invitation is our theme for September and I'm excited to begin this year with such a beautiful idea. We have the opportunity to invite each other and ourselves into the community together once again or for the first time. We are starting the month by exploring the many Invitations that are part of being in our faith community. Pay attention over the month to watch for invitations to engage with the community on a deeper level. One of the best ways to build connection in the community is to join together to volunteer in some aspect of congregational life.

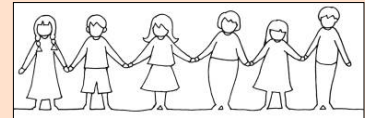
Soul Work: Our Soul Work table will continue to be part of the cozy corner this Summer. We are working on new ideas to add to the table this fall. If you have an idea to share, let Mary know so we can expand some of the activities on the table. Meanwhile, there is always something available to work with during the service. 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!

Join us for All Ages Faith Formation at Summit: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! 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 September Theme is Invitation.

We will be gathering in RE at 10am on Sundays for Religious Exploration. 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.

Sept 1 – Inviting Reconnection – We are welcoming back old friends and connecting with new friends through games and crafts. This is a great Sunday to bring a friend or invite back a friend you are missing.



Sept 8 – Water

Communion Ingathering Service – This is one of our annual full fellowship services for all ages. We will be creating a water pond area for sensory play during the service. Bring a bit of water from home or travels to share as we gather together to mingle our shared stories.



Sept 15 – Inviting the New – Nothing stays the same as we are always growing and changing. Today we are going to be exploring our values and how we welcome new experiences, friends and adventures through story, games and creativity.



Sept 22 - Inviting in Spiritual Practices – This Sunday we will be crafting our group covenant and chalice lighting ritual for our RE classrooms. Be part of creating our ritual for the year. We may even try the Human Chalice challenge!



(cont. on next page)

Sept 29 - Inviting People - In this session, we explore what it means to share our UU Faith Tradition and how we might go about inviting friends, family, and the wider community to Summit. We will be crafting welcoming spaces and participating in a treasure hunt to discover all the magic that we are ready to share.

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



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.

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 and keeping our website up to date. If YOU are interested in working on these kinds of projects, please contact Elinor Weed at meweedy97@gmail.com.

Summit is a community of volunteers—by volunteers, for volunteers, with the *support* of our amazing staff.

Where will your place(s) be in the Summit community this year?

We welcome YOUR participation!

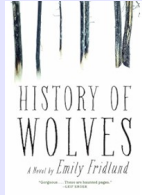


∞ ADULT LIFE ENRICHMENT ∞

THE SUMMIT UU BOOK CLUB MULTI-PLATFORM OPTIONS!

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

September 3 we will be discussing
History of Wolves, by Emily Fridlund.



Next month, on October 1,
we will be discussing
The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris,
Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the
Civil War, by Erik Larson.

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



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
September 8) in the
Sanctuary at Noon.



Auction Corner News

Summit Auction in the Year of the Dragon!

Calling all dragon lovers, tamers, riders and those who just plain need some luck!

August-September: Your Favorite Business can be OUR Favorite Business!

We are working hard, but you can really be a BIG help for us. Business Auction collections are now going on. We would appreciate you asking for a donation. If you get a "yes" we will follow through with the necessary paperwork, or mail you the Letter and Form, or you can pick them up from Summit. For more information or to let us know you have a business willing to donate, please contact Pam Williams or Carol Legard. For phone calls, please leave a message. We will call you back!

September: Member/Friend donations!

Start thinking about what you want to donate. Meals, Game Nights, Movie Nights, Picnics, Teas, and other events are a popular way to support Summit and provide opportunities to have fun with each other throughout the year! Forms coming in September.

November: Plan to join in the fun!

Online bidding: Nov. 9-15
In Person auction: Nov. 16th

For email inquiries, please use summituuauction@gmail.com



WELCOMING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Getting to Know Us Event



The Welcoming and Membership Committee invites you to join us at Summit on the first Sunday of October. The event is

Getting to Know Us: An Orientation for Newcomers to Summit.

Learn more about our Fellowship and Unitarian Universalism!
This will happen on Sunday, October 6th at 11:30 AM in the Summit Library.

Our minister KC, Summit leadership, and members of the Welcoming and Membership Committee will be in attendance. There will also be food and beverages available as well.

This “Getting to know us” session will give newcomers and new members a better understanding of Unitarian Universalism and Summit UUF, which we hope will provide an avenue for deeper involvement with the denomination and Summit.

If you have been considering membership at Summit, but haven’t taken the final steps, you still have time to do this before our October 13th service, when we will recognize the new members who have recently joined.

If you are interested in either of these, feel free to contact Jim Weed at HDSurf@aol.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION

The Social Justice in Action Committee meets at noon in the Summit library on the second Sunday of each month. All members and friends interested in taking action on enhancing justice, freedom and the environment are invited to join us. If you would like to learn more, contact summitsjia@gmail.com. Everyone welcome!

The next SJiA meeting will be Sunday, September 8, 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 Wednesday 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.



AFFINITY GROUPS

POETRY GROUP

Led by Margo Mariana

Please feel free to bring a short piece you have written to share with the group to get some feed-back support.

We meet in the Summit Library the last Saturday of each month.

Please call Margo Mariana at (619) 312-0903 if you have questions and/or to register.



Next meeting is
Saturday,
September 28,
10:00 a.m.—
12pm

WEDNESDAY MORNING CONVERSATIONS

We meet on Zoom and talk about 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 time to be with other Summitarians that you might not get to see otherwise. Spread the word.



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

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 September 24 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 markatpspectrum@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

An Ingathering Message from Rev. Dr. Sofía Betancourt



President Betancourt shares greetings and welcome, as well as some of her deepest hopes for meeting the moment in the coming year. As Unitarian Universalists come together again in this time ingathering and renewal, may we remember that joining together in community is a significant expression of faithfulness in such divided times.

[Watch the video \(YouTube\).](#)

UUs Pass Resolution Embracing Transgender People as an Expression of Religious Values

At General Assembly 2024, an overwhelming majority of Unitarian Universalists voted to approve a Business Resolution that solidifies and strengthens the UUA's ministry to and with transgender, nonbinary, and intersex members of UU communities.



[Trans Business Resolution](#)

www.uua.org/pressroom/press-releases/uus-pass-resolution



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
BALTIMORE • JUNE 19 - 22, 2025

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to have voting delegates.

From June 18 - 22, 2025, the 64th UUA General Assembly will be a multi-platform event with the main stage at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland.



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

OFFICE HOURS

Tues, Wed, Fri — 9 am to 2 pm

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[Calendly Schedule](#)

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September, 2024

About SUUF Publications

Please send submissions for the monthly SCENE AT SUMMIT NEWSLETTER via e-mail on or soon after the 20th, to summitUUF@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.