



# 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: Repair

November 3

## “In This Time of Promise”

Rev. KC Marie Pandell

Today, we explore the hopefulness of possibility, especially on the days where it can feel hopeless. We will also celebrate the ordination of our minister, KC, with a ceremony during the service - all are welcome to join.



November 10

## “An American Legacy”

Rev. KC Marie Pandell

Join Rev. KC as she shares her experience with the UUA Transitions team in Montgomery, AL, and the experience of the Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum, Memorial Park, and Sculpture Garden, where we ask the question: How do we repair the hurts of the past?

November 17

## “Planting Seeds”

Stephanie Mood, Guest Speaker

An exploration into the importance of creating and maintaining various kinds of habitats in urban areas. Currently, cities produce about 75% of human-origin CO2, much of which could be blocked by planting more trees and gardens, with an emphasis on native plants and the habitats they create. Plants are the nervous system, the map on which the world is built. We can learn a lot about cooperation and generosity from plants.

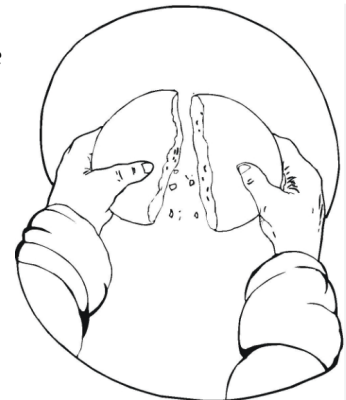
November 24

## “Alimentum in Communitate”

Rev. KC Marie Pandell

Breaking bread together is a crucial part of human connection -- the simple act of sharing a meal can transcend culture, generations, and sometimes, even perspective. In the face of so much uncertainty, how can the simple act of community nourishment help us

find purchase? Please join Rev. KC in exploring this topic, and please bring bread to share for our Bread Communion.



*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 ~ Reverend KC Marie Pandell

Dear Summitarians and Friends: to joyously share these events with you.

At the time of this writing, we are in a unique space: I have been blessed by two congregations, one of which being this beautiful community, and have had the joyful pleasure to have the title "Reverend" bestowed on me, after 8 years of hard work towards that moment. That moment that came less than 14 days before an election that will forever change the face of this country. An election that has anxiety running rampant amongst our relationships, community, and the country at large (and, arguably: the world). Since that moment, we have heard continued racist rhetoric said loudly and proudly from political rallies, as well as calls for hope and community in other rallies.

We know that the next few days will be difficult, and no matter the outcome on Nov. 5, there will be big emotions to be tended to, and plenty of relationships that may require attention and repair.

But I'm not in the business of fear mongering, I'm in the business of hopeful dreaming, dreaming a better future with all of you, a more just, liberative, and loving future, and I will continue to do that at every turn. That is what this faith calls us to do, and I do so with pride.

In the spirit of hopefulness, a few notes on the month of November: this upcoming Sunday (Nov. 3), we will be hosting a mini-ordination at Summit, for those of us who were unable to attend the service in person. The Zoom recording is available for anyone interested. On November 24, not only are we hosting a Bread Communion (please bring bread to share!), but immediately after service, we will be decking the halls together, and dressing up our lovely Sanctuary for the holiday season ahead. I hope

I won't pretend the upcoming days are easy: it's been remarkably difficult to plan even sermons for the month, when there are so many unknowns, so many uncertainties. At the end of it all, though, we have each other. May we hold each other kindly in the pain, firmly in the uncertain, and always with love at every opportunity. These days, perhaps especially, I am always available to share my heart space with you. I love you all, and we will navigate this next moment in history together.

If you are in need of some extra centering this month, [HERE](#) is a worksheet that can help. Printouts will be on the table in the Greeting Room.

Blessings,

*Rev. KC*

(714) 869-7645

[summitminister@gmail.com](mailto:summitminister@gmail.com)

### MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS

Reverend 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,

November is the month I think of all the things for which I am thankful, and I am happy to say there are many!

I am thankful that our community was able to ordain KC Marie Pandell as a Unitarian Universalist minister!!!

I am thankful for all the friends I have made at Summit who have enriched my life, celebrated my joys, and supported me during times of sorrow.

I am thankful for the many years I had with Pierre by my side.

I am thankful for the nature that surrounds me, and for those working to make our world more sustainable, and to reverse climate change.

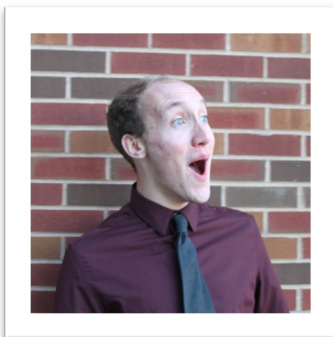
I am thankful for the democratic country I live in, and for those working to make it more just, equitable, and compassionate.

I am thankful to have found Unitarian Universalism, and for those working to share our beloved community with those searching for a spiritual home.

For those who will be in town and would like to coordinate a Thanksgiving meal in the Salon with fellow Summit members and friends, please let KC, me or Nelwyn know.

Thank you for being a part of our beloved community ,

*Debbie*



## SUMMIT'S MUSIC PROGRAM

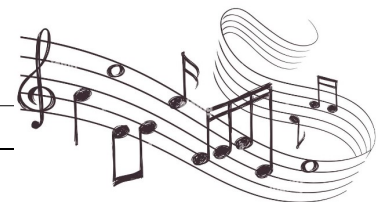
**DUNCAN MATTHEW, MUSIC DIRECTOR**



### The Summit Choir is back!

We are once again singing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We would love to have more singers - please join us! We sound pretty good, we would sound even better with you!

Rehearsals are in the sanctuary on Wednesday nights  
from 6:30-8:00 p.m  
Contact [Duncan.matthew49@gmail.com](mailto:Duncan.matthew49@gmail.com) for more info.





## LIFESPAN FAITH FORMATION NEWS

MARY CARTER-VAIL, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

My heart is still singing as I write this. We had the great honor of Ordaining our minister— Pastor KC is now Reverend KC Marie Pandell. Some of us

attended the in-person service and ritual and some attended online. Many more will be here on the first Sunday in November when we will participate in a ritual at Summit for the full fellowship. It is our community that honors our new minister as she honors us by choosing us as we choose her. I hope that your hearts are singing as well.

**Repair:** Our theme for this month is the [Practice of Repair](#). This is an opportunity to repair relationships, grow connections and to heal hurts by being in our community together. A major goal this month is to help our children understand the many tools we have available to heal each other and the world. We also hope to impress on our children that these ways of going about repair matter, regardless of how supposedly “large” or “small” they may be. We will be focusing on three areas to practice repair: Democracy, Kindness and Honesty. We will then conclude the month with Gratitude at our first Bread Communion service.

**Soul Work:** Our Soul Work table will continue to be part of the cozy corner in the Sanctuary. 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!

**RE Community Gatherings: Deck the Summit Halls – Sunday, Nov 24:** Following the service at 11:30am in the Sanctuary. All ages are welcome as we get our festive decorating on. Bring some cookies to share for our special decorating social hour following the service. Decorations and evergreens donations welcome.

**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](mailto:summitdre@gmail.com) to explore ways you can be part of Faith Formation at Summit.

**Our November Theme is the Practice of Repair:** We will be gathering in RE at 10am on Sundays for our Religious Exploration 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.

**November 3 – Democracy (The Tool to Repair Not Having a Say) –** What is repair? Get out your UU toolbox as we begin to explore the tools of repair starting with the importance of the right to Vote. As part of this Sunday, we hope to be able to go visit the polling place on site at Summit. We will also have a special creative project to work on.

**November 10 – Kindness (The Tool to Repair Meanness) –** In this session we will explore the power of kindness as a way to repair a difficult experience. How do you experience kindness and how do you share it? We will be learning the art of repair by sewing and repairing with thread as we talk about the thread of kindness that we have the opportunity to weave each day.

**November 17 – Rev KC & Honesty (The Tool to Repair Lies) –** Reverend KC will be joining us this Sunday in RE as we explore honesty and begin to plan our RE Holiday service for Dec 15. This will be a very special day for our children and youth to build a connection with KC and create a space for conversations around the importance of honesty in families and beyond.

*(cont. on next page)*

**November 24 – Bread Communion Service** – Join us for this very special all ages service where we will live into the gratitude for the past year and break bread together. Bring some bread to share or just come and enjoy the service. There will be a special activity for folks who need to be active during the service. Watch the RE newsletter for updates.

*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](mailto: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.

## ∞ COMMUNITY EVENTS ∞

### November 16

**Summit Auction 2024—The Year of the Dragon!** See page 6 for details.

**Auction Childcare:** There will be childcare during the Summit Auction on November 16th. Come in your PJ's for Pizza and a Movie during the live auction. This is included in the price of an auction tickets for the adults. RSVP by Nov 15 to [Summitdre@gmail.com](mailto:Summitdre@gmail.com).



### November 17 at 11:30am

#### **Summit Adventurers RPG Club**

We meet in the RE area. This is a D&D style role playing game, (RPG), for all ages. Drop by to see what is happening if you are interested and new to RPG's.

### November 24 at 11:30am

#### **Deck the Summit Halls Community FUUN**

Let's decorate for the festive season following the service at 11:30am in the Sanctuary. All ages are welcome as we get our festive decorating on. Bring some cookies to share for our special decorating social hour following the service. Decorations and evergreens donations welcome.

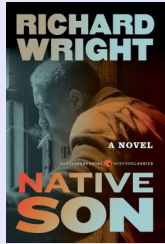


## ADULT LIFE ENRICHMENT

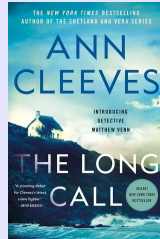
### THE SUMMIT UU BOOK CLUB MULTI-PLATFORM OPTIONS!

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.

November 5 we will be discussing  
The Long Call, by Ann Cleeves.



Next month, on December 3,  
we will be discussing Native Son,  
by Richard Wright.



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



### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Rev. 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 1st Sunday (on  
November 3) in the  
Sanctuary at Noon.



## Auction Corner News

### Calling all Dragon Lovers!

Dragons Represent Intelligence, Enthusiasm, Tenacity & Courage

**Member/Friend and Business Donations:** Bring your items to Summit ASAP (before Nov 15<sup>th</sup>)  
If you missed the deadline to submit, contact Shannyn Allen or Debbie Wingard ASAP so we can  
add to the catalogue.

**Raffle Tickets and Admission Tickets:** Available at Summit on Sunday Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> or  
purchase online at <https://auctria.events/yearofthedragon>

Raffle items include a \$250 gift certificate towards any show at the  
Rady Shell, bundles of restaurant certificates, and the ever-popular  
Wine Collection from the Men's Covenant Group!

#### Join in the Fun!

November 9-15: Online Bidding

November 16: In Person Auction

5:00pm Silent Bidding & Appetizers

6:30pm **Lion Dance Performance!**

7:00pm Live Auction & Desserts



## 🌀 SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION 🌀

Did you know that Summit supports microloans to small businesses worldwide through an organization called Kiva? This group "uses crowdfunded microloans as a force for good, creating a space where people can have one-to-one impact, and together, expand financial access for all."

Currently Summit has about \$150 distributed in loans. Once paid back, we redistribute the funds, usually to women-run vegetarian enterprises. If you would like to support this effort, donations are accepted through the Social Justice in Action link at <https://summituuf.breezechms.com/give/online>. You can designate your donation for Kiva.

Here is some information on our latest loan recipient, who lives in Fiji.

### Maria's story

When her children left school because the family couldn't afford it, Maria decided she had to expand her fruit and vegetable stall. She makes about \$40 per day on top of her husband's wages as a carpenter. Maria will add bananas and other vegetables to her stock, and seeks a loan to finance this growth plan. From past experience, she believes the larger business can earn \$60 a day. She hopes this boost in income will allow her to send her children back to school.

This loan is facilitated by our Lending Partner, South Pacific Business Development (SPBD) - Fiji. Lending Partners are local organizations working in communities to vet borrowers, provide services, and administer loans on the ground.

This loan supports financially marginalized women in Fiji with credit to help them establish businesses and improve their livelihoods. SPBD Fiji provides financial literacy training to help borrowers better understand their income and expenses, and also offers market-specific guidance throughout the loan period. In Fiji, there are very few other microfinance institutions. By supporting this loan, you're helping empower women with the credit and education needed to start and grow their businesses.



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](mailto:summitsjia@gmail.com). Everyone welcome!

**The next SJiA meeting will be Sunday, November 10, 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](mailto:eastcountysdc@pflag.com).



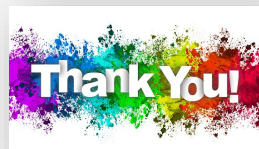
## ∞ WELCOMING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ∞

Greetings, this is Jim Weed, chairperson of the Welcoming and Membership Committee, checking in.

The committee has had a very busy month. We first had a Getting to Know Us event where newcomers and visitors had a chance to learn more about Unitarianism Universalism, Summit and its members. This was followed by celebrating five new Summit members during the following week's service. We continue to have both online inquiries about Summit, as well as visitors who come by to check us out in person on Sundays. Many of these people are now regular attendees or have become members.

Something that we discuss during our committee meetings is how to get these people as well as both new and old members involved in the life of Summit. One thing we come back to is becoming involved in a committee or helping around Summit on a Sunday, perhaps aiding Juana Page in the Salon or with ushering. The Welcoming and Membership Committee is also looking for people to volunteer at the greeting table. These would be good ways to get to know people at the Fellowship.

I want to end this by thanking everyone for their contributions to the running of Summit. Without you, Summit would not be possible.



If you are interested in getting involved, feel free to contact Jim Weed at [HDSurf@aol.com](mailto:HDSurf@aol.com) or look for him at Summit on most Sundays.



## 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](mailto:meweedy97@gmail.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 first Monday of each month.

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



Next meeting is  
Monday,  
November 4,  
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](mailto: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 November 26 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](mailto: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](mailto:denny.braun@usfamily.net).



# Denominational News

YOU → Summit UU Fellowship → SD Cluster →

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



If you're experiencing a crisis and are seeking immediate support, please find [crisis resources \(scroll to the bottom of that page\)](#).

[Register for the trans/nonbinary+ gathering.](#)

[Register for the pastoral care group space.](#)



## 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.

### FAITHFUL CONVERSATIONS



is...

- ...an invitation to "go deep", exploring core UU concepts and values
- ...a set of resources for facing conflict and change: with trust in each other and in the power of community
- ...a set of embodied practices to build heart-centered, covenantal faith



In an effort to support congregations to continue to engage with the proposed Article II revision, UUA staff have collected and commissioned some resources from the field to supplement the [original Article II Study Commission resources](#). [Faithful Conversations](#) is a padlet with a diverse set of resources to support congregations in times of change, challenge and choice - with love at the center.



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

**OFFICE HOURS**

Tues & Fri — 9 am to 3 pm  
Wed.— 9am to 1pm

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**November, 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](mailto:summitUUF@gmail.com)

Please send submissions for the eNews, the weekly announcements, to [SUUFVolunteer@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:SummitUUF@gmail.com).