



# THE SCENE AT SUMMIT

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

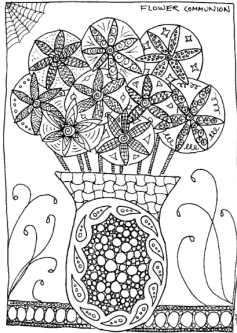
Multi-Platform Sunday Services begin at 10:00 a.m.

Theme: Flourishing Together

June 7

## Flower Communion Sunday Rev. KC Marie Pandell

Flower Communion RE Sunday – Our children have been learning about the flower communion and are crafting elements of the service for this Sunday. Bring some flowers to share as we learn about and participate in this uniquely UU celebration of community. This will be an all-ages service with an embodied worship table. Our Annual Congregational Meeting is directly following the service.



June 14

## “How to Take Flourishing Personally” Cath DeStefano, Guest Speaker

Imagine waking up every morning with a sense of living a flourishing life. What does it mean to flourish? Have you considered what that entails? What would your life look like? Cath will briefly ask you 12 questions used in the Global Flourishing Study to assess your own levels of flourishing and then focus on three simple, doable things to help yourself do just that. Thrive not survive.

June 21

## General Assembly Watch Party

"Join us for GA Sunday Worship on June 21, 2026 for a powerful and communal experience – the largest annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists in worship. We are delighted to share that Rev. Jen Youngsun Ryu will lead Sunday Morning Worship at GA 2026." Folks are welcome to worship together in person at Summit at our usual hour, to watch the replay at home, or to tune in at 8:00 a.m. PST to the UUA Youtube to watch it live. Note: This service is scheduled to run for 90min.



June 28

## “Part of Your World: On Story and Reconciliation” Rev. KC Marie Pandell

There's a reason why Greek myths, Shakespeare, Frankenstein, and any number of storytellers and stories have survived the centuries: Stories tell us about ourselves and each other. But sometimes, our own stories make it difficult to hear the stories and tend to the wounds of others. Join Rev. KC for an exploration of how story informs and changes those who it touches. Note: This service includes a pre-recorded sermon. Rev. KC is returning from doctoral studies, and will back in the pulpit on July 5.

*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:

We have gone around another church year together, and as we wrap up what is my third year with all of you, I am filled with gratitude. Since beginning my time with you all, I'm occasionally asked "How long do you think you'll stay at Summit?" A pretty respectable pastorate these days, especially for a first time out the gate, is 5-7 years, though my answer is genuinely "Oh, 5 to 10 years would be nice." Sometimes it feels like three years have simply flown by, and I look forward to more with you, helping grow a faith community of thriving and flourishing alongside each and every one of you. This month's theme is, after all, "Flourishing Together," and I can't wait to explore it with you. I would also love to hear from you how Summit can continue to support your flourishing, and how we might be able to help in that endeavor. For those of you in covenant groups, I hope you enjoy exploring what flourishing looks like together; this is the last Soul Matters theme for this church year – July & August are dealer's choice for our facilitators.

That all said, I won't be taking the summer off as I normally do. I will be away on vacation for a few weeks in August, but I'll be using my 2026/2027 study leave a little more specifically this year, as I'm officially 85% of the way through my coursework for my doctorate (a few assignments notwithstanding). That means that very shortly, in just a few months, I'll be able to begin my thesis project work – TBD what that will look like. Bearing that in mind, I will be away from Summit for a bit this month, as I travel to Rome to study with my cohort in the welcoming presence of the Waldensians (more about them in July). That does mean, however, that I will be away on the last of this church year's study leave, and will be largely unavailable outside of an emergency from June 19-30, especially as I will be roughly 9 hours ahead of you all. Please remember that our wonderful lay pastoral care team is available for any needs, and

Rev. Everett will be returning for serious pastoral needs. I look forward to sharing more about my studies and experience in July. Worth noting, due to a mistake on my part, I will be pre-recording your June 28 sermon, as it will be exceptionally difficult to Zoom in as I fly over the Atlantic Ocean – so very sorry about the mix-up in my away dates.

May we all find flourishing that is meaningful and meaning-making!  
All my love and blessings,

*Rev. KC*

(714) 869-7645  
rev@summituuf.org

### 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](#)

For **pastoral care June 19-30**, reach out to our Lay Pastoral Care Team by email at [LayPastoral@summitUUF.org](mailto:LayPastoral@summitUUF.org), or by phone:

- ◆ Tom Brower (858) 245-6593
- ◆ Stacey Sasaki (619) 850-7553 (text preferred)
- ◆ Mark Weedman (619) 334-5300

**Rev. Everett Howe** will also be on call for pastoral care during this time. To reach him, you can email him at [rev.everett.howe@gmail.com](mailto:rev.everett.howe@gmail.com), or call or text his pastoral care number: 619-648-9287. If your call gets sent to voicemail, please leave a message!



## PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

~ DEBBIE WINGARD, BOARD PRESIDENT ~

Dear Friends,

On June 7<sup>th</sup> we will have our Congregational Meeting to vote on officers for the Board of Directors, Trustees of the Endowment, Members of the Nominating Committee, and a proposed budget for the coming year.

The budget proved challenging in that expenses are rising faster than our income. Members and friends who pledged were very generous in their contributions, but we have fewer pledging members than in the past. This is true of many congregations in this post COVID era. Our challenge is to identify additional sources of income while growing our pledging membership. Alternatively, we must prepare for the possibility of reducing staff in the coming years.

Come participate in the discussion on June 7<sup>th</sup> and join in efforts throughout the coming year to come up with creative solutions! We will persevere. We will continue to be a loving community committed to building a compassionate, just and sustainable world. I feel so blessed to be a part of this community.

With love,

*Debbie*

### HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED AT SUMMIT?

- **Become a Member!** See page 7 for details on how to officially join Summit.
- **Volunteer!** 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?
- Like to sing in the car or the shower? **Come explore Choir** this summer—no experience necessary! See page 6 for details.
- **Join a Group/Club or Committee!** We have a number of groups, clubs, and committees; there is something for everyone— Earth-Centered Spirituality, Poetry Workshop, Book Club, Seasoned Seniors, Prayer Circle, Social Justice in Action, Grief Group, and more.
- **Attend one of our Community Events!** We have several Concerts coming up this summer, Soulful Saturdays, and our Rummage Sale later this month. See page 8 for a list of events.

*We welcome YOUR participation!*



# LIFESPAN FAITH FORMATION NEWS

MARY CARTER-VAIL, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Welcome to the end of the Religious Exploration calendar year. This month we are wrapping up our Soul Matters curriculum and getting ready for some summer fun and celebrations.

With both Juneteenth and Pride celebrations this month, we will be flourishing together as we recognize our shared history of freedom for all of us. Sometimes celebrations can be challenging in this current climate, and we will remember that JOY is an act of love that we can share with each other.

**Flourishing Together:** Our theme for this month brings joy and holds sorrows. How do we flourish together? We share stories and build the connections that lead to flourishing. We volunteer with each other to build relationships and be part of creating a flourishing community at Summit. We celebrate our children and create a space for them to ask questions and discover their own answers. We share rituals, like the Flower Communion, as we recognize the diversity of each individual and the beauty of a multi-faceted whole.

**Summer of Wonder Program** – For July and August we will be taking a break from our Soul Matters curriculum for some summer fun. I am putting together some fun activities that are great for new children and will build connection with all of our families. Activities will include Fairy Garden Making, a visit from the Rock Guy, Slime Making Sunday and Tie Dye on Rainbow Sunday. There will be two, (or more), family gatherings after the service to connect parents with each other and grow our program. We will have a family Tea Party on July 26 and an End of Summer Picnic on September 6. Save the dates and invite new families to Summer Play at Summit.

**Free Little Library is Thriving** - Our little library is getting some local attention, as we are on the Little Free Library App. Yay! We do need some more books so bring in any gently used titles to contribute. Especially children’s books. Our local neighbors, along with many of you, are bringing in books! Last week the library was packed and then it was almost empty – it is being used and appreciated by the local community. Bring book donations to RE so our children can add in the

bookplates and enjoy filling the library. Thanks again to all who have supported this fun project!

**Join us for All Ages Faith Formation Religious Exploration 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. Contact Mary at [DRE@summituuf.org](mailto:DRE@summituuf.org) to explore ways you can be part of Faith Formation at Summit.



## Our June Theme is Flourishing Together

We will be gathering in the Sanctuary at 10am on Sundays for Religious Exploration. Our children and youth will participate in the service until after the “Invitation 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.

**June 7 – Flower Communion RE Sunday** – Our children have been learning about the flower communion and are crafting elements of the service for this Sunday. Bring some flowers to share as we learn about and participate in this uniquely UU celebration of community. This will be an all-ages service with an embodied worship table.



## June 14 – Flourishing Together with Juneteenth

– Do you know about Juneteenth? This newly national holiday is the celebration of the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. We will be learning about Juneteenth and celebrating with traditional red drinks and strawberries on ice cream. YUM!

*(continued on next page)*

**June 21 – Flourishing Together with Garden Sunday** – What better way to flourish than by sharing the abundance in our garden. We will be harvesting some of our crops and planting some new ones that thrive in the summer heat. Our bounty will be shared with the community during social hour.

**June 28 – Flourishing Together with Pride** – The first Pride was celebrated in 1970! We will learn about the history of Pride while making colorful crafts together. Just in time for San Diego Pride in July

*These are the plans at the beginning of the month, and they may be adapted as our community needs change, so please watch the weekly Children’s Religious Exploration Email. To receive the weekly email, send your email address to Mary at [DRE@summituuf.org](mailto:DRE@summituuf.org).*

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.



Seeking to connect with like- minded peers in the solitude of the quiet forest? Our camp offers what your heart needs. Here, bonding with others in a loving and safe community happens every day. Want to strengthen your creative mind through art, music, yoga, or theater? Or are you just looking to set your worries aside for a moment, and enjoy all sorts of games and activities here in our mountain retreat, surrounded by friends and family? **Camp de Benneville Pines awaits you!**

**We offer Youth Camps, Camps for Adults, Family Camps, and Church Weekends. SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

Get all the details at [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org)

**Our Contact Information**  
Camp de Benneville Pines  
PO Box 82  
Angelus Oaks, CA 92305-0082  
(909) 794-2928 Voice Messages Only  
<http://www.uucamp.org>



## **SUMMIT'S MUSIC PROGRAM**

**JERRICA STONE, MUSIC DIRECTOR**



# **SUMMIT CHOIR WANTS YOU!**

**HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO SING BUT WERE TOO AFRAID, SHY, INEXPERIENCED?**

## **SUMMER SING-XPERIENCE**

You don't have to perform. You just show up and learn and sing with your friends.



**NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!  
JUST A WILLINGNESS TO TRY!**



**WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM.  
IN THE SANCTUARY**



## WELCOMING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

### Welcoming and Membership Happenings

I am continuing to find Summit a great refuge during this time of uncertainty and frustration that I often feel with what's going on in the world around me. The members and friends of Summit are the key elements that make it the supportive community it is for me. One thing I hear on a regular basis from returning visitors is how easy it is to make connections with people here. I am seconding this observation, and this is one of the things that makes Summit the special place it is for me. I want to thank everyone who attends Summit for making this the welcoming place it is.

For those who have been attending Summit for some time and are not members yet, perhaps now is a good time to join. Being a member provides a framework for the everyday pursuit of meaning through activities, worship, and spiritual and intellectual development. Joining is an expression of commitment to the vision of Summit. In making a public commitment to join with us in practicing and promoting the values reflected in our Principles and Purposes, the effects of your gifts, talents and resources will be multiplied, for the realization of a compassionate, just and sustainable society.

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

- Acknowledging their sympathy with its missions and programs,
- Actively participating in the life and work of the fellowship.
- Making 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.

-Signing the membership book is the last part of becoming a member. Reverend KC has this, so contact her to sign it when you're ready to become a member.

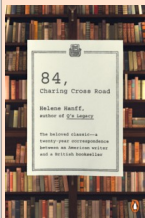
~ Jim Weed, Welcoming & Membership Committee Chair

## 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.

This month, on June 2, we will be discussing Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir.



Next month, on July 7, we will be reading 84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanff.

Everyone is welcome, to either to participate or listen. Please contact Cheryl S. with questions.



### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Rev. KC, Facilitator

Rev. KC leads a Grief Group for Summitarians and friends who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

The next meeting will be June 7th in the Sanctuary at Noon.



### SUMMIT UU FELLOWSHIP PRAYER CIRCLE

Organized by Seraphina

We meet in the Sanctuary on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month from 1pm to 2:30pm.

All are welcome!

## ☞ SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ACTION ☞

The Social Justice in Action Committee meets regularly 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 SJIA committee meets on the second Sunday of the month;  
Our next meeting will be June 14 at 12 Noon  
in the Library and on zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/98852027774>

Summit is a Welcoming Congregation and celebrates our LGBTQ+ family and community. For information about PFLAG meetings and support in East County, please email [eastcountysdc@pflag.com](mailto:eastcountysdc@pflag.com).

# LEADING WITH LOVE



## ☞ COMMUNITY EVENTS ☞

**Sunday June 7**  
Congregational Meeting  
after the Service

**Saturday, June 27, 8am-1pm**  
Summit Rummage Sale in the Salon  
*See details on page 10*

**Saturday, July 11 at 10am**  
**Soulful Saturdays**  
Soul Collage Workshop in the Salon  
*Contact Mary for details*

**Saturday, July 18 at 7pm**  
Peter Bolland: "Songs of John Denver"  
*Doors open at 6:30pm*

**Thursday, July 30, 10am-4pm**  
Red Cross Blood Drive in the Salon  
*Scan this QR code to make your appointment  
to give blood!*



**Saturday, August 8 at 10am**  
**Soulful Saturdays**  
Tie Dye in the RE Garden  
*Contact Mary for details*

**Saturday, August 29 at 7pm**  
Electrocarpathians Concert  
in the Sanctuary  
*Doors open at 6:30pm*

# ∞ AFFINITY GROUPS ∞

## EARTH-CENTERED SPIRITUALITY GROUP

This group meets on the **Fourth Sunday** of the month at noon in the Sanctuary.

For information, contact Mary Carter-Vail at [DRE@summituuf.org](mailto:DRE@summituuf.org)

All are welcome!



## SEASONED SENIORS

A Group for those who are 79 and up!

We meet the **2nd and 4th Mondays**, from 10:30am - 12:00 p.m. in the Summit Library.



For those that can't come in person, you may join by Zoom. If you have questions about our group or want to join on-line with a link, contact Pam W.

## DAYTIME WOMEN'S GROUP

The Summit Daytime Women's Group meets the last Friday of the month from 1-2:30pm.

Contact Shari R. or Marianne Z. at [SUUFwomensdaygroup@yahoo.com](mailto:SUUFwomensdaygroup@yahoo.com)



## THE SUMMIT TUESDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP

We are now hosting open house meetings on the last Tuesday of each month. Any and all men in the Summit community are invited. This month the **OPEN HOUSE** meeting is Tuesday, June 30 from 6:30 to 8pm 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 W. for more information.



## POETRY WORKSHOP

Led by Margo Mariana

Come play with words! Discover the poet within.

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

We meet in the Summit Library the first Monday of each month.

Please call Margo M. if you have questions and/or to register.



**Next meeting is Monday,  
June 1st  
10:00 a.m.—12pm**

## WOW—WOMEN OF WISDOM EVENING WOMEN'S GROUP

Longing for a meeting that suits your needs? All are welcome - come share your wisdom and hang out with other amazing women!

Meet with us the 3rd Monday of every month, at 7:00 PM, at different houses.

Call or text Stacey S. for more information,  
See you there!

## 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.

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 B..



# RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, June 27  
8am-1pm in the Salon

Donations will be accepted  
June 21 (after service) until  
June 26

✦ *To benefit the Summit  
building fund* ✦

Want to help?  
Contact Mark Weedman at  
[property@summituuuf.org](mailto:property@summituuuf.org)

# Denominational News

YOU → Summit UU Fellowship → SD Cluster →

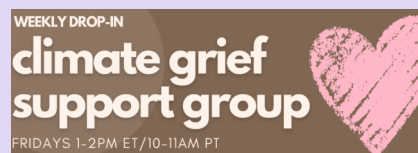
Pacific SW Service Area → Pacific Western Region → Unitarian Universalist Association

As the U.S. marks its 250th anniversary, many Unitarian Universalists are recognizing this historic milestone not as a moment for uncritical celebration, but a time for truth-telling, reckoning, and bold imagination. On Monday, June 8 at 8pm ET/5pm PT, join Side With Love for a special Declarations of Democracy online program. Faith leaders, scholars, and organizers will gather to name what democracy has been, confront what it has excluded, and build together toward what it must become.

[Declarations of Democracy](#)

On Wednesday, June 17, as part of the midweek programming at General Assembly, there will be a special online screening of, "If I Could Stay / Si Pudiera Quedarme", an award-winning PBS documentary that follows two undocumented mothers who take sanctuary in local churches rather than face deportation and separation from their families. The documentary offers an intimate look at the lives of Jeanette Vizguerra, who took sanctuary in a UU congregation in Colorado, and Ingrid Encalada Latorre, while also exploring how Unitarian Universalist and other faith communities have responded when called to put their values into action. Join us as we gather in community, online and in person for General Assembly.

[Register for General Assembly](#)



UUMFE's Acting Director, Rev. Lauren Levwood, and our team of UUMFE Movement Chaplains, are working alongside UUMFE Movement Chaplain Intern Chelsea to co-facilitate a weekly drop-in Climate Grief Support Group on Fridays from 1-2pm ET/10-11am PT over Zoom.

If you are concerned about the state of our world, worry about how current events are intersecting with climate disturbance, are a parent or grandparent concerned about the coming generations, or a young adult with anxiety about the future of our living world, this Climate Grief Support Group will provide a space for you to process your experiences with others in a ritualized, trauma-informed, and mindful way. We recommend you bring a stone or similar grounding object for our time together. To register, click [HERE](#).

## Strawberry Moon, June 28, 2026, 5pm

Our beloved Full Moon Gatherings have returned, and we hope to welcome you to our next gathering on June 28th! We will meet on the Sunday evening closest to each full moon. Info and registration [HERE](#).





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

#### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Thursday — 9 am to 5 pm  
*Please call before coming in to make sure  
someone will be in the office*

#### MINISTER

**Rev. KC Marie Pandell**

Rev@summituuf.org

[Calendly Schedule](#)

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DRE@summituuf.org

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music@summituuf.org

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admin@summituuf.org

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**Mark Weedman**

property@summituuf.org

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**Nelwyn Del Frate:** admin@summituuf.org

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#### Board of Trustees

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Brenda McGuinness—*Treasurer*

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**June, 2026**

#### About SUUF Publications

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

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 **admin@summituuf.org**