



# The UNICORN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County  
6401 Freedom Boulevard, Aptos, California 95003, (831) 684-0506  
Website home page: Use <http://www.uufsc.org>

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October 2006

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 Please call office phone or email  
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## The UNICORN

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## October Sunday Services

All Sunday Morning Services Begin At 10:00a.m.

Oct 1

### *"The Faith That Can Save The World"*

UU's have a religious faith that, unlike many others, can unite people of many diverse beliefs. It is our "good news." Yet we seem reluctant to proselytize. What prevents us from trumpeting our earth saving beliefs to others? Guest speaker Bob Meyerson, member of the Starr King UU Church in Hayward, offers some suggestions.

Andy Kreyche, Service Associate

Oct 8

### *"Ronald Reagan is In, Thomas Starr King is Out"*

Thomas Starr King, first a Universalist and later a Unitarian minister, whose statue resides in the National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol, is about to be removed from his pedestal. The California Legislature voted to replace his statue with one of Ronald Reagan. Who was he, and why should we care?

Rev. Ann Schranz

Oct 15

### *"Breathing In and Breathing Out: Spirituality and Social Justice"*

Spirituality and social justice are often perceived to be the concern of different people in our congregations. But what is the price we pay in our wholeness? How is our effectiveness in the world diminished? This Sunday we'll explore a more holistic paradigm that integrates us as persons and as congregations - and just could save the world!

Rev. Ann Schranz and Rev. Cathleen Cox-Burneo

Oct 22

### *"Following Your Heart"*

Curtis Reliford, founder of the "Following Your Heart" movement, and recipient of the Red Cross Good Samaritan Award, and Helen Isherwood of the Fellowship, will talk about their experiences working to meet the needs of the Katrina victims in the FEMA camp in Louisiana.

Sylvia Forsyth, Service Associate

*See page 2 for October 29th service details*

October 29

*"Immigrants and Immigration: Personal Stories and Social Consequences"*

In September, dozens of local families were torn apart by the deportation of family members in raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. What do we need to know about immigrants and immigration?  
Rev. Ann Schranz



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## Social Action Committee News

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At the September meeting, SAC voted a number of significant resolutions, which will be passed along to the Board and membership for support and approval. We urge the Fellowship's active support for these initiatives.

The first is related to the recent action by the INS to detain 107 Santa Cruz residents for alleged violation of immigration regulations. This action has been decried by a number of religious groups, some of which are directly affiliated with COPA (Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action.) SAC voted to support these groups and COPA in their protest.

In the second, SAC voted to endorse Measure K, which will be on the November ballot in Santa Cruz. This Measure has been placed on the ballot by Santa Cruz Citizens for a Sensible Marijuana Policy and will, among other things, place personal marijuana use at the lowest law enforcement priority for our local police department.

The third initiative voted support for Senate Bill 840, Universal Health Insurance for California. This single payer plan will cover every Californian resident; provide quality care, comprehensive benefits and personal physician choice for those covered; be affordable for individuals, families and business owners.

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## In the Interim with Rev. Ann Schranz

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Last month, the Immigration and Naturalization Service conducted raids in Santa Cruz, Live Oak, and Watsonville. Dozens of families were torn apart by deportations of family members. COPA (Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action) is coordinating protests by religious congregations and allies. Please join others in raising awareness and in working for change in the immigration policies of this country!

This is an excerpt of the "Action of Immediate Witness" passed by delegates at the 2006 Unitarian Universalist General Assembly in St. Louis:

"Our Unitarian Universalist faith calls us to recognize that no one is 'the stranger.' We support the rights of our brothers and sisters who are recent immigrants to the United States of America. Many among us are immigrants and integral members of and contributors to our communities and our congregations. Politicians increasingly use immigrants as scapegoats for this country's problems and strive to distract the public from the underlying issues of global and economic justice. Our broken immigration system allows exploitation of undocumented workers.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the 2006 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association supports just and comprehensive immigration reform, supports the creation of an accessible and timely process to obtain residency and citizenship, supports equitable treatment of all workers, supports access to government and its democratic processes and to health care, education, and police protection for all, opposes attempts at all levels of government to further criminalize or demonize immigrants and undocumented individuals and the people who give them humanitarian aid, urges all Unitarian Universalist congregations and their members to continue providing services and fellowship to undocumented individuals even if legislation is passed that criminalizes these humanitarian acts, opposes legislation by any governmental body that establishes any language as our 'national language,' and opposes the further militarization of United States borders."

The October 29 service will include stories of immigrants. Please contact me at the Fellowship office or by emailing [minister@uufsc.org](mailto:minister@uufsc.org) to share the story of your immigrant ancestors (or perhaps the story of yourself as an immigrant.)

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## President's Letter

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A sense of gratitude fills me often as I go about the tasks before me as your President. Deep gratitude for the many thousands of hours given to this place, our spiritual community. I hope that I share this feeling well with those who have given it to me. I feel grateful that someone has helped find and train teachers for our children. I am grateful that someone has coordinated a meal for the men who stay every Sunday. Someone has volunteered to count, record and deposit our money, and paid our bills so the lights work. As I look about the grounds, I know that someone has maintained them. I am happy that people have found time to find artists, and hang art in our sanctuary. I try to thank people for the time and energy that they bring to give us all. I hope you will try to thank folks too.

Remember, we are all volunteers, and have lives calling us outside this fellowship. Yet we are drawn to join in this community, and give to the tasks needed to keep it functioning. Often a simple "thank you" can remind someone that what we do here for each other is important. It matters.

I am available via my mobile phone 831-332-7599. My office hours are 9a.m. to 12 noon on Thursdays.

I remain yours in service, Lora Lee Chapman



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## Board Meeting Highlights

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***Board approved the following:***

- \*Get bids for a one-year audit of financial records
- \*Post ads for music director
- \*Hire non-members for paid staff positions with the understanding that any current member employees be grandfathered in
- \*Give formal recognition to Dolores Abrams, including a formal naming ceremony and a plaque
- \*Make available \$2,500 to offset costs of October 2006 congregational retreat
- \*Set date of April 15th for traditional congregational meeting. April 22th is reserved solely for voting on a new minister.

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## Endowment Committee Invites Ideas for Funds

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**Got a great idea about enhancing the UUFSCC Social Justice and educational programs? Funds are available!**

Our fellowship is fortunate enough to have an Endowment Fund, established with generous donations from deceased members. Any UUFSCC member or committee can apply to the Endowment Committee for a grant that will either: 1) boost the community and social justice programs of the Fellowship or 2) enhance the fellowship's educational programs.

A recent survey of our membership asked what we want for our fellowship in the future. Attracting families through a stronger RE program and making our fellowship more visible as a prominent actor in social justice issues in the community proved to be top priorities.

Put on your thinking caps and send us a grant proposal addressing these goals, which fit so neatly into the Endowment Fund purposes! Application forms are available in the UUFSCC office (hard copies,) on the UUFSCC website, and by contacting Susie Shane (Endowment Committee Chair) at [jadeskye1952@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jadeskye1952@sbcglobal.net). Applications are due by Sunday 15 October 2006. Late applications will not be accepted. E-mail applications to Susie Shane at the above e-mail address. Funding decisions will be made in time for approval by the Board at its November meeting.

Thank you, Susie Shane, committee chair



***Board is looking for:***

- \*Members talented in graphics and writing to put together packet for new minister.
- \*Team to design and create a new website for UUFSCC
- \*Volunteer coordinator. Position will have administrative support. Ann McCrow will serve in advisory capacity.

Respectfully submitted, Lois Cole, Secretary

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## Ministerial Search Committee Reports

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When this Unicorn goes out, we will have unveiled our web based Congregational Record, which is the first step to allowing potential ministerial candidates to look at our fellowship. We personally will have made a group sigh of relief, but our work is far from done. We are now in the process of putting together the packet, the portfolio about the Fellowship to send to the best candidates while they send theirs to us.

We had the pleasure of a visit from Cilla Roughly, the Pacific Central District (PCD), District Executive, who gave us helpful advice on the search and kindly reassured us that our congregation is well respected in the PCD and the UU Association.

I have been asked to reprint our timeline in a more simplified format. Here it is from now.

\*We meet every Wednesday.

\*10/25/06: Packet and Letter of Agreement to Ministerial Settlement Representative, Laila Ibrahim, for approval

\*11/1/06: Fellowship packet ready to send.

\*11/19 and 12/3/06: Minister candidate packet reading parties for the Search Committee

\*12/10/06: Beyond Categorical Thinking Sunday service and workshop

\*1/10/07: Search Committee chooses three best candidates February and March 2007: Search Committee spends weekends with candidates and attends neutral pulpit at nearby UU Congregations where the candidates will preach

\*3/21/07: Search Committee selects one candidate

\*4/15 to 4/22/07: Candidating Week, which includes two services by the candidate

\*4/22/07: Congregational Meeting to vote on candidate.

We are always open to discussing the process with you, short of breaking any confidentiality.

To remind you, we are Bruce Fihe, Chair, Randy James, Mark Rogers, Steve Morairty, Andy Kreyche, Loraine Sandoval-Vigil, and Jenny Wood.



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## Celebrate Evolution and Freedom of Thought

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You are invited to participate in a unique group outing on Sunday, November 5th. We'll leave in carpools at 12:15p.m. from the Fellowship and meet at Hartnell College in Salinas where Andy Kreyche will present a short animated program at the Hartnell Planetarium examining the development of life on earth, mass extinctions, and the search for life beyond our planet. We'll then walk to the Western Stage regional theatre company on campus where we will attend the 2p.m. matinee performance of "Inherit the Wind". After the performance, we'll re-convene at a local restaurant for dinner before heading back to Santa Cruz.

Please contact Andy Kreyche (429-1032) by October 15th if you would like to participate. Andy is providing the planetarium show for free. The cost of the play will be approximately \$16 per seat if we come up with a group of at least ten people. Dinner arrangements will be made closer to the actual date.

*Set aside the date and reserve your spot today!*

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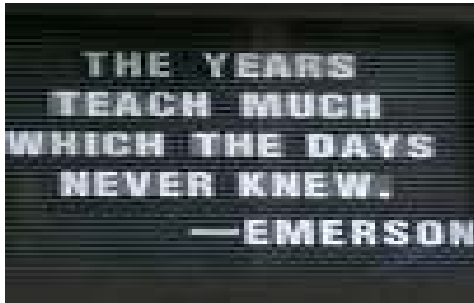
## Committee on Ministry

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Hello and welcome to autumn! Your Committee on Ministry met in September shortly after our retreat the end of August. We want to share with you that we have new nametags identifying us as COM members to help you spot us at coffee hour if you'd like to share something with one of us. Soon a new picture of us will be posted in the hallway so you can see what we look like if you don't already know. And if you're shy or a creative writer we also have a suggestion box, which should be out on the membership table, in which you can deposit written suggestions, comments or concerns on any subject you think we might be interested in. We also prepared our input on what we would like in the new minister for the Search Committee at our last meeting.

We look forward to a future program evaluating how we (UUFSCC) are doing at fulfilling our mission statement. And if you're not sure what our mission is, it is: "We, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County, join together to foster our spiritual growth and to promote social justice. Honoring religious diversity and affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all people, we commit our combined actions and personal resources to these goals."

Erica Crawford for the C.O.M. (myself, Thomas Witz, Marley Smith-Merrill, Linda Neher and Lee Cavanaugh)



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## Wisdom Circle

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A newly formed wisdom circle, or a small group which fosters deeper relationships and provides a spiritual setting for personal growth,

will hold its first meeting on Monday, October 30 from 7:00-9:00p.m. and possibly on the following second and fourth Mondays of the month. Contact Linda Neher, Marsha Hudson, or Rev. Ann Schranz if you wish to join the circle.

Wisdom circles, sometimes called "covenant groups," are becoming very popular within UU congregations across the nation. In good UU fashion, the members of each group covenant with one another about the specifics of how they want their group to function. Generally six to ten people meet twice a month for an agreed-upon length of time, perhaps three or four months, and each group has a facilitator who helps the group stay focused. After a brief check-in and opening words, each person talks without interruption about a mutually agreed-upon topic, for example, "a turning point in my life," "something I did recently that enriched my spiritual life," or any other topic the group picks that is consistent with fundamental UU principles and interests. After everyone has shared, time is provided for open discussion of the topic. A simple ritual ends the meeting.

Although the wisdom circle is closed for the agreed upon length of time, at the end of that time members are free to drop out or continue, while new members are added and a new agreement made. Many groups find that their experience is enriched by also working together on some project that serves the larger community, for example, cooking a meal for ISSP together.

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## CUUPS: the 6th Source and the 7th Principle

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It is in Autumn-- that golden sun season of ripened fruit and veggies, that transitional season between the extremes of hot summer to cold winter, when deciduous trees shed their leaves like Salome and her seven veils-- that we tend to find ourselves facing opportunities for reflection; some opportunities we choose to attend to, some impose themselves upon us. All the same, reflection is the heart's work of Autumn.

On the weekend of Oct 13-15 we will gather in a special, even sacred, place to reflect on our personal and communal spirituality. This question is especially important to us now, while we work to call a new settled minister, so we can identify what it means to us as a beloved community. We would do well to have a better understanding of what role spirituality plays in our fellowship life, as a practice and as a metaphor. If you find that you would like to attend Saturday, October 14th, you still have time to sign up; please let me know by Sunday, October 8th. And remember, we will gather at the Fellowship on Sunday morning with both Rev. Ann and Rev. Cat; when we will bring the good work home.

On November 5th the Sunday morning service will be our annual Samhain celebration. As always you are invited to bring artifacts and pictures of your dearly departed. This ritual allows us to reflect on those who have passed and what they contributed to the present, that we may recognize this gift or burden, and thank them. It is an all ages service and the UUF youth and kids are encouraged to participate. If you would like to be a part of the service please contact me ASAP.

On behalf of CUUPS, I wish you a glorious autumn season. Take a moment to walk in nature and drink in her beauty, to pause for a moment and reflect on the spirit of life.

Blessed Be, Terra Collier-Young



*Spirit of life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea, move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice. Roots hold me close, wings set me free; Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.*

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## the Poets' Corner

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*October 10*

*Now constantly there is the sound,  
quieter than rain,  
of the leaves falling.*

*Under their loosening bright  
gold, the sycamore limbs  
bleach whiter.*

*Now the only flowers  
are beeweed and aster, spray  
of their white and lavender  
over the brown leaves.*

*The calling of a crow sounds  
loud --a landmark--now  
that the life of summer falls  
silent, and the nights grow.  
--Wendell Berry*

\*This space is available for all UUF poets to showcase their work. Please send your submissions to [unicorn@uufsc.org](mailto:unicorn@uufsc.org) with "unicorn poetry" written in the subject line.

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## Friday Book Group

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Even though the book group met in September we did not come up with any new books on our reading list. So I'll just repeat what was in the last Unicorn: In October we'll be reviewing Louis Begley's *Mistler's Exit*. In November it will be E.M. Forster's *Howard's End*. There is a glowingly reviewed movie of this book which we will be watching the following night, providing we can get it. And you'll just have to wait for the next Unicorn to find out what we'll be tackling in December and in 2007.

As usual, we will meet the first Friday of each month at 7:30 at Joan Roberts' home. Call 688-7598 for more information.

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## Musical Ministry

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**\*Open Mic:** October 21st, the third Saturday of the month. Signups begin at 7:30p.m. at the Fellowship. Contact Marijke Meijer for details, 477-7588.

**\*Chant and Meditation Circle:** October 25th, the fourth Wednesday of the month. Come for this soul enriching experience lead by Terra Collier-Young, beginning at 7:30p.m. in the sanctuary.

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## October Dinner Club

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The Dinner Club is open to all members and friends. Every month, people will be assigned a different dinner group and take turns being a host/ess so you will have dinner with different people every month. I will assign six or seven people per host/ess. The first name on the list in the host/ess and will provide the house, appetizers, and beverages. The second name will provide main dish, the third name will provide salad/bread, and the fourth will provide dessert.

Group 1: 1) Collier-Young, 2) LeMaster, 3) Cole, 4) Crawford/Newbold

Group 2: 1) Newman, 2) Hudson/Shackelford, 3) Meyer, 4) Smith-Merrill

Group 3: 1) Aaker/Fihe, 2) Neher, 3) Heath, 4) Rogers

Group 4: 1) Senko, 2) Oxley/Newfarmer, 3) Bowman, 4) Star Dancing/Partlow

Group 5: 1) Mohsenin, 2) Lamb, 3) Wood

Substitutes Morairty, Seamon, Thiemann, Hoernschemeyer, Fish, Lachman.

If you would like to join dinner club, please email Iran Mohsenin at [imohsenin@comcast.net](mailto:imohsenin@comcast.net).



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## Flower Dedication Opportunity

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Members and friends, here's a way for you to have your loved ones remembered and at the same time enhance the aesthetics of our meetinghouse at Sunday services: You can donate flowers in honor of or in memory of a loved one, or to recognize a special anniversary. If you do so by the Wednesday before the service of your choice, your dedication, as you state it in our new "Flower Dedication Book", will be printed in the Order of Service bulletin for that service. Look for the Flower Dedication Book in the office (until we find a better place for it).

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## Use eScrip and Financially Support the Fellowship

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There's an easy way to contribute to the UUF that won't cost you anything at all! Enroll in our eScrip program, and every time you buy something from a participating merchant, or with a registered credit card, anywhere from 1% to 20% of the purchase price is contributed to the UUF.

**With all of us working together, that can add to several thousand dollars a year!**

How about sending some of that hard earned money back to the UUF, starting today? It couldn't be easier. Register at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Our Group number is 141528746. Or contact the office, 664-0506, [administrator@uufsc.org](mailto:administrator@uufsc.org) for more information, and a list of participating merchants, including Safeway, Macy's, Payless Shoes, Office Max, American Airlines, and many more.

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## Hospitality News

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You will soon be seeing a large poster for "COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP." We need everybody to sign up this year. Word of mouth census taken last spring proves that the majority of the congregation wants to have coffee hour. However, people have not been signing up to participate.

The Hospitality Committee has decided to take a more pro-active approach to filling the time slots. Beginning October, we'll post a sign up at coffee hour. We hope all of you will take a turn.

Thanks go to V and Danni, Ken Chambers and Shannon for coffee service, and a special thanks to Terra for feeding everybody lunch at the "Labor of Love" service.

Thanks to all the people who have brought flowers for the past few months. We need flowers every week for the service. If you are interested in bringing flowers for the Sunday service please call Priscilla in the office by the Wednesday before.

We still have GREEN TEA for sale for \$4.00. For more information please call Sylvia 685-8637 or Patt 724-9545

### POTLUCK SUNDAY - OCTOBER 1st

#### "Fall Harvest Banquet"

A -C MAIN DISH  
H-N SALAD/BREAD  
O-R DESSERT  
S-Z CLEAN UP



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## UUF FYI's

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### *\*Sponsored by the Social Action Committee*

Come and hear Bill Monning Speak on Democracy and the Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela  
7:00p.m. Friday, September 29, 2006 at UUFSCC

*\*New Unitarian Universalist:* new member classes will be held on Oct. 8 and 15. Our minister, Rev. Schranz, and membership committee members will be leading the sessions, held from 11:30a.m. to 12:30p.m. after the service. All who are interested in wanting to know more about Unitarian Universalism and our Fellowship are urged to attend.

*\*UUFSCC Autumn Retreat,* Oct 13-15 at the Land of Medicine Buddha, beginning Friday afternoon with a poolside TGIF. "Our Spiritual Life" will be the topic, lead by Rev. Cathleen Cox-Burneo. Sunday morning service will be held at the Fellowship.

*\*Drumming in the Grove:* CUUPS (Covenant of UU PaganS) would like to offer regular drum circles after service on one Sunday a month, weather permitting. Contact Patt Taylor or Terra.

### *\*\*Membership Table*

Oct. 1 Rosalie Kraft

### *\*Collection:*

Oct. 1 Iran Mohsenin

Oct. 8 Donna Senko

*\*Yogabration 2006:* PlusYoga classes for new students and seniors. Exploring and maintaining the relationship between body, mind and spirit. Breathing techniques for energy and strength. Meditation techniques to help you relax and rejuvenate.

Brian Heath, Ph.D Certified Yoga Instructor, can be reached at 464-8442; my e-mail address is: [brianregheath@yahoo.com](mailto:brianregheath@yahoo.com).

*\*Mentors wanted for UUF youth:* The RE committee is looking for adults to mentor our teens for the Coming of Age program, beginning in February. This is a great opportunity to support our youth and RE. Please contact Susie Shane to sign up.



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## Labor of Love: taking care of our sacred space



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