

Unitarian Universalists of West Hawaii – September 2015 Newsletter (page 1 of 2)

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

2nd & 4th Sundays @ 4 pm, Sadie Seymour Gardens/Outdoor Circle, 76-6280 Kuakini Highway

www.uuwesthawaii.org P.O. Box 3433, Kailua-Kona 96745 Editor: Linda Olsen linda-o@audioeditions.com

UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

Remember for the Sept. 13 service: bring your precious small water samples – either actually collected or symbolic -- from some place this summer that was meaningful to you. It doesn't need to be a "travelogue" but, rather, what it represents as a value in your life and/or for your family.

Sept. 13, 4:00 p.m. -- "Gathering of Waters Ritual."

Throughout the U.S., UU churches often begin the "church year" with members & visitors sharing water that represents something meaningful that was experienced during the summer. Travel? A special Island location? Tears of joy or sorrow? Be prepared to place the water in a communal gathering bowl with a brief talk-story about its importance. Jamie Pardau is coordinating the service.

Sept. 27, 4:00 p.m. – Reverend Catherine Ishida "Akahai: Kindness." Auntie Pilahi Paki taught that one of the core character traits of aloha is "Akahai", kindness to be expressed with tenderness. How do Unitarian Universalists understand kindness? How can we practice kindness in ways that honor all the traditions that are dear to us?

OTHER DATES:

**Everyone is welcome at all of these meetings.
If you have questions, call Linda at 530-368-0079.**

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 3:30 p.m. – Board meeting at Maiden's home. One of the agenda topics will be to determine the what/when/why/how for Adult Ed classes and/or discussion groups to be offered by Rev. Cat during the fall and winter seasons. We will also evaluate the Sunday Service summer programs.

Saturday, Sept. 26, 4:30 p.m. – Sunday Services Committee Meeting at Mary's home.

Sunday, Sept. 27, following church service -- the Aloha Spirit Day Steering Committee at Sadie Seymour Outdoor Circle.

MEMBER NEWS

We continue to hold Rosemary and Tom Fitch in our thoughts and prayers. Texas is a long way from our beloved UUWH community... but the Aloha we send is more than "virtual."



Photo: thanks to Sandee Crisp

Donkey Mill Report from Maiden:

Those who missed the Donkey Mill Art Center Program missed out on lots of FUN! We saw an exhibit of what various artists created from an 8 foot length of a piece of lumber 2 inches by 4 inches in size. The variety of art produced was fantastic! It ranged from a mask created from wood shavings to a wooden slinky, an interactive whiteboard and charcoal pieces to write on it, an amplifier in the shape of an ukulele, two trees, and a sculpture painted black from paint created from charcoal.

Then we had loads of fun making collages on canvas boards. Many supplies were available to glue, paint, or draw as we wished. Dee Ann Fujioka-Liilley, who conducted the tour, circulated among us while we created, offering supplies and comments. We showed everyone our creations at the end.

Mahalo to Gail and Karen for helping make this Creative Event happen!

"Aloha Spirit Day"

February 20, 2016

We are mailing out invitations to all the CA congregations and now intend to selectively mail to other West Coast locations and all the UUA districts.

Please remind your friends and other UU churches in which you have participated about this upcoming event. The next Steering Committee Meeting will be **Sunday Sept. 27** following church. It is OPEN to everyone who would like to help with the brainstorming & decision-making. Let's create a success together!

MUSIC SPEAKS

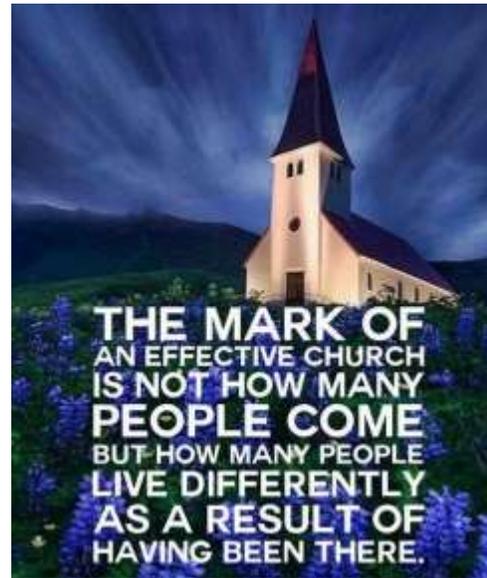
Recently when I was at the Auburn UU church (Sierra Foothills Unitarian Universalists), the opening hymn was "Let This Be a House of Peace" by Jim Scott (from the teal hymnal #1054). The words are included here as it *FEELS* like a song that may speak to others, too.

Let this be a house of peace
Of nature and humanity, of sorrow and elation
Let this be our house, A haven for the healing
An open room for question,
And our inspiration
Let this be a house of peace, let this be a house of peace.

Let this be a house of freedom
Guardian of dignity and worth held deep inside us
Let this be our house, A platform for the free voice,
Where all our sacred differences
Here shall not divide us
Let this be a house of peace, let this be a house of peace.

Let all in this house seek truth
Where scientists and mystics abide in reverence here
Let this be our house, A house of our creation
Where works of art and melodies
Consecrate the atmosphere
Let this be a house of peace, let this be a house of peace.

Let this be a house of prophesy
May vision, for our children, be our common theme
Let this be our house, Of myth and lore and legend
Our trove of ancient story,
And cradle of our tender dreams
Let this be a house of peace, let this be a house of peace.



MISSION STATEMENT

We are a welcoming, caring community committed to a free and open search for meaning, guided by the wisdom of the ages, reason, intuition, and experience. We work toward a more accepting peaceful world with respect for all existence.