

MISSION

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.



UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday, **March 13**, 4 p.m. – A “**Do It Yourself**” sermon by Frank Young, American Friends Society and UU from Terre Haute, Indiana: Most sermons end with the presenter giving conclusions. What would happen if the conclusions instead came from the congregation? In this “**Do It Yourself**” sermon, Frank will encourage congregational participation. First we will hear some historical religious statements and traditional stories about the distribution of assets and the sharing of resources. Then we will respond with our opinions and feelings about some specific questions raised by the statements and stories. Come expecting to share your thoughts, feelings, and wisdom as you contribute to the creation of this sermon’s conclusion.

Frank has attended the Terre Haute UU Congregation since moving there in 1987 and has been a member of the Society of Friends since his teenage years. He and Julie have been married for 54 years. They have 5 children, 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. They have wintered in Kona for the last 12 years, having fallen in love with the Big Island after living here for a year while Frank taught at the U of H at Hilo.

Sunday, **March 27**, 4 p.m. “**Strong is What We Make Each Other**” with UU minister, Rev. Catherine Ishida. Come celebrate the Spring Equinox and the season of renewal with a story-woven service for all ages!
Please bring a small snack to share with others.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

Our annual congregational meeting for all members follows the March 13 service. Agenda:

- 1) Board Elections: new officers and a Trustee-at-Large
- 2) Elect 1 Nominating Committee member for 2016-17;
- 3) Discuss and adopt the 2016-17 budget, pending successful pledge drive;
- 4) Reports from the outgoing board; discussion of future.

MAHALO to the Nominating Committee -- Karen Gold, Jamie Pardau, and Marjorie Erway -- for preparing a *slate of officers/trustees for your consideration:*

- President – Karen Gold
- Vice President – Open
- Secretary – Linda Cherry
- Treasurer – Gail Dawrs
- Trustee-at-Large (2-year term) – Maiden Temple
- Trustee-at-Large (1-year term) – Tom Fitch

Nominating Committee:

1. Jamie Pardau continues for 1-year
2. Nomination from floor (2-year term)
According to the by-laws, the 3rd member of this committee will be appointed by the Board.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER Linda Cherry

Linda, a new resident of the Waimea area, has happily joined UUWH. She brings deep UU experience to us – prior membership in 3 UU churches: Hayward, Berkeley, and Sequim, WA (a total of 37 years!). She describes herself as a secular humanist.

When Linda was asked if she would be willing to be nominated as Board Secretary, she emailed “Volunteering and volunteer management have been part of my personal and professional lives for decades. So I knew the time would come, and it's an honor to accept your proposition.”

It's an honor for us to welcome Linda!

AND HERE'S AN INQUIRY FROM LINDA C.:

would North County UUs (Kapa'au, Hawi, Honoka'a, waimea) like to get together occasionally in addition to the twice-monthly UUWH Sunday services?

would you be interested in getting to know UUs in the area better? If so, how about a gathering sometime **the first week of April** to explore how that could happen? **If this appeals to you**, please email me at Linda-Cherry@att.net or call 238-8138.

Personal Spiritual Trainers

By Nathan C. Walker

When you come to me,
come not with the expectation
to have some passive clergy person
coddle you into complacency.

No. Come to me as your PST—
your personal spiritual trainer.

I'm serious. I want to see you move.
I want to see you root yourself in a community
Built on moral complexity and
to hold one another to the
ethic of intellectual honesty.

I want to see you move beyond the
religious hang-ups of your broken past and
use your regenerative spirit to seize the day.

I want to see you flex your moral muscles.
I want to see you exercise spiritual practices to the point
of
training your mind and body and spirit to collaborate
as a single, integrated, and dynamic entity.

I want to hear you articulate your beliefs.
I want to hear you articulate your faith
to the point of having some moral relevance.

I want to know that you are
engaged in the moral issues of our time.
I want to know what makes you afraid.

I want to know if you are cultivating
your doubts and your questions
so that when you do take a stand,
we can all trust your authenticity.

I want to know the intricacies of
how you are treating other people.
Have you learned new ways
to better your relationships?
If so, share them.

I want to know if you have learned to like yourself.
Have you learned to love yourself?

I want to know if you feel alive.
I want to know if you feel like you belong,
like you feel like you matter,
because to me, you do.

You do. Because you are *my*
personal spiritual trainers.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, **March 6**, time to be determined – Sunday Service Committee meeting at Mary Garris's house. Call for directions and time if you would like to join this essential planning for UUWH.

Tuesday, **March 8**, 11:30 am – Lunch & Board Meeting, Royal Kona Resort lanai by bar. Review of proposed 2016-17 budget, Aloha Spirit Day, and plans for upcoming year. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday, **March 10**, 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Join us for the Adult RE series led by Rev. Cat Ishida. Location: Full Life conference room, Pottery Terrace, Suite 432 (Plumeria Building on the left at the top of the terrace). Everyone is welcome. It's a great opportunity to be in deeper connection with each other.

ALOHA SPIRIT DAY – Feb. 20, 2016

With much advance planning and everyone pitching in on the Day Of, this first-time event was deemed a Big Success. Co-chairs Pat Mrazek & Linda Olsen thank everyone for their contributions – positive energy, fabulous presentations, delicious food, generous hosting, and UU-style appreciation of our Big Island. We did it!



Board VP Linda Olsen

welcomes the 55 people in attendance.



Rev. Cat Ishida opens

with beautiful singing of "Spirit of Life" in Hawaiian.



Marc Gordon shares his family's experience moving to the Big Island – a story of humor, thoughtfulness, and wisdom.



Karen Gold and Jamie Pardau are among the many hands helping set up the bountiful buffet.



Lee & Betty Meyerson and Chris White illuminate the amazing options for activities here. All of our other speakers – Jamie Pardau, Karen Anderson, Cindy Whitehawk, and Mahina and dancers – offered us incredible insight to this area of Hawaii. Information about volunteer activities was organized by Sandee & Rod Crisp.



The lanai dinner provided space for much lively talk-story.



Pat Mrazek cuts the Celebratory 4th Anniversary Cake for UUWH.



The day concluded with Bo Pardau's inspiring underwater photos.

We met our goals: sharing our love and deep experience of the Big Island with newcomers, visitors, and old-timers. Perhaps we even met some potential new UUWH'ers!