



# UCC Petaluma

A Ministry of Hope | Open & Affirming  
Servants of the Just & the Good.

**Sun Nov 20, 2022**

Web: [www.uccpetaluma.org](http://www.uccpetaluma.org)

Facebook: [UCC Petaluma](https://www.facebook.com/UCCPetaluma)

Email: [uccpetaluma@gmail.com](mailto:uccpetaluma@gmail.com)

*To Heal, Inspire and Empower in the Way of Jesus  
So that all people may create lives of deeper meaning and greater value.*

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## *News & Opportunities - Sunday and Beyond...*

### **This Sunday, Nov 20, Worship in Sanctuary**

Come on up to sanctuary as we conclude a series exploring power in human relationship. **Plan to stay for 2nd Hour!** 11:15-12:15 when we will be in conversation with our connections and questions to power in relationship to our everyday lives and recent learning.

**A Friendly Reminder:** One of the very best ways to help us all stay safe this season is to get your seasonal flu and COVID booster shots as soon as they are available to you. If you are uncertain how or where to receive these, please reach out. We would be glad to assist!

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### **Mark Your Calendars!**

#### **Nov 20 @ 11:15am** - 2nd Hour Conversation - How Shall We Use Our Power?

The first in what we hope will be a regular recurring series of dialogues that invite reflection and questions connecting recent Sunday themes to our lived experience. This conversation will be facilitated by Rev June Goudey.

#### **Nov 22 @ 7pm** Thanksgiving Interfaith Worship

Hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Petaluma 939 B St, Petaluma, CA 94954  
Coffee, tea, and conversation to follow- light desserts or snacks to share are welcome

Join Online: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx5Rsia-GAEi5CEw42xL4rg>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/petalumafirst>

Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89002981183>

#### **Dec 1 @ 5pm** Advent Taize under the Cross at UCC Petaluma

Gather in sanctuary for a 30 minute experience of Taize, a centering practice of chant, prayer, readings, and silence to begin the stilling season of Advent.



## **Global H.O.P.E. - a virtual worship Monday, December 5, 3:00pm**

[Click Here to register](#) and then join with Team Global HOPE at UCC National Ministries for a Blue Christmas worship service. Blue Christmas services traditionally provide space for those who don't feel so "merry and bright" during the holiday

season. This gathering seeks to recognize and stand in solidarity with the experiences of those aggrieved or displaced by disaster or forced migration in 2022, from Kentucky, to Ukraine, and beyond. UCC Clergy and choirs engaged in humanitarian ministries across the denomination will be providing reflective liturgy, music, and preaching during this event. This event will be recorded for later availability or use in local Blue Christmas events.

**Black Therapy Voucher Program** offers up to 12 sessions of mental health counseling with a culturally competent therapist. Each session is valued at \$150 per session. Complete funding is provided by the County of Sonoma through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and is administered by the Sonoma County Black Forum. Applications for the Black Therapy Fund open November 4.

### **Volunteer Ministry Opportunities at UCC**

- We need your help to support our in-person gatherings, especially on Sundays. Simple Tasks suitable to any ability vary depending on the Safety tier. Reply to this email if you are interested in learning more or sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10cod45a5ae23a1fec43-inperson1>

Thank you to those of you who have recently volunteered! We also need help:

- Preparing coffee/creamer before Sunday service between 9:30-10am
- Purchasing ground coffee from Petaluma Coffee Co.
- Steaming tablecloths once a week for Fellowship hour

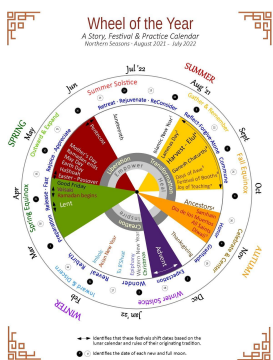
**THE GENESIS CIRCLE** (Single women's group) Stay tuned for the next meet up date. To learn more about this group, please contact Dorothy Wilcox at 707-540-1796

## UCC Petaluma Bible Study - 2nd & 4th Mondays in the Library

Join a long-standing, thoughtful group in Bible study on 2nd & 4th Mondays in the church library at 10am. Nov. 14 through Feb. 13 we are looking at the Parables of Jesus. Sessions led by various study members. Come and see! All are welcome whether you have a lifetime of Bible study experience or none at all. To learn more, contact Dorothy Wilcox at 707-540-1796

## UCC Petaluma Book Group - "Braiding Sweetgrass"

At their Nov 17 gathering, the UCC Petaluma book group will continue reading [Braiding Sweetgrass](#) by Robin Wall Kimmerer. If you would like to learn how to join in the meaningful and valuable conversations of this inquisitive group, please contact Paul Eklof for details at [Peklof@pacbell.net](mailto:Peklof@pacbell.net). We currently gather by zoom using the ID 282 945 1345 Password = "ucc"



**Wheel of the Year** [Click Here to download a new Wheel of the Year for 2022-23](#). This helpful visual tool is a helpful guide to your spiritual practice - connecting your unique faith to the festivals of our tradition in relation to the traditions of billions of others around the globe and the unique practices of your household. If you would like a printed copy of the Wheel, we would be pleased to make one for you, reply to this email with your desire! You can also download a copy at our [website](#).

## What's Happening in Leadership at UCC Petaluma?

Want an update about what your Council is working on right now?

Your communication team has prepared a summary of our meeting so that you can stay informed. Please note, all Council meetings are open to all. Feel free to join us at 11:30 am on the third Sunday of the Month. The link below will take you to a brief description of what was reviewed, decided, reported, and more.

**Stay tuned:** we are preparing more information about how the council works, what it does, and who does what. Let us know what you want to know more about. And, if you would like to help with this service, be in touch.

Lynn Berard, Communication Team Leader  
Helen Heal, support writer

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## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1: Lynn Berard
- 5: Ruth Jacobsen
- 12: Kirsten Smith
- 15: Laura Roberts
- 24: Keenan Foster



## **NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 9: Jennifer Yount and Lynn Sletto
- 15: Tom and Kathy Brandal
- 24: Lance and Laura Roberts

# **Worship Sunday Nov 20, 2022**

*Gathered in Sanctuary at UCC Petaluma*

*Prelude*

***“The Spinning Song”***

*Albert Ellmenreich*

*Unison Call to Worship*

***The Serenity Prayer***

*By Rienhold Niebuhr*

God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change;  
Courage to change the things I can;  
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;  
Enjoying one moment at a timely;  
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, Amen.

*Sing*

***“We Are a Gentle Angry People”***

*by Holly Near*

*Lyrics for the generations by J. Hubbard*

We are a gentle angry people  
And we are singing, singing for our lives *repeat*

We are a humble willing people  
And we are singing, singing for our lives *repeat*

We are an ally-building people  
And we are singing, singing for our lives *repeat*

We are an justice seeking people  
And we are singing, singing for our lives *repeat*

We are a servant leader people  
And we are singing, singing for our lives *repeat*

## Teaching Scriptures

**Micah 6:6-8** “With what shall I come before the Author of Life and bow myself before the Ultimate? Shall I come with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Divine be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my resistance, the fruit of my body for the errors of my soul?” Your Maker has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what is expected of you but to make justice, loving kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

**Matthew 20:25b-28a:** “You know that the rulers of the gentiles lord over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 26 It will not be so among you. But whoever wishes to be great among you, let them be your minister servant.<sup>1</sup> and whoever wishes to be first among you, let them be devoted to others before personal preference.<sup>2</sup>

**John 13:12-17** “When Jesus had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and Master,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Master and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than their master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent them. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed when you do them.

## Special Music

### “*Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant*”

*New Century Hymnal #539*

Won't you let me be your servant; Let me be as Christ to you.  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey. We are partners on the road.  
We are here to help each other, walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you, in the night time of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping. When you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow, 'till we've seen the journey through.

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<sup>1</sup> In Koine Greek: *diakonos* from which we get the term deacon, meaning a minister servant.

<sup>2</sup> In Koine Greek: *doulos* meaning devoted to others before personal preference.

**“Choose to Bless the World”**

*by Rebecca Parker*

Your gifts—whatever you discover them to be—  
can be used to bless or curse the world.

The mind's power, the strength of the hands, the reaches of the heart,  
the gift of speaking, listening, imagining, seeing, waiting

Any of these can serve to feed the hungry, bind up wounds,

Welcome the stranger, praise what is sacred, Do the work of justice, Offer Love

You must answer this question: What will you do with your gifts?

Choose to bless the world

The choice to bless the world is more than an act of will,  
a moving forward into the world with the Intention to do good.

It is an act of recognition, A confession of surprise, A grateful acknowledgment  
That in the midst of a broken world, unspeakable beauty, grace & mystery abide.

There is an embrace of kindness that encompasses all life, even yours.

And while there is injustice, anesthetization, or evil

There moves A holy disturbance, A benevolent rage, A revolutionary love,  
Protesting, urging, insisting that which is sacred will not be defiled.

Those who bless the world live their life as a gesture of thanks  
For this beauty And this rage.

The choice to bless the world can take you into solitude  
To search for the sources of power and grace;  
Native wisdom, healing, and liberation.

More, the choice will draw you into community,  
The endeavor shared, The heritage passed on, The companionship of struggle,  
The importance of keeping faith, The life of ritual and praise,  
The comfort of human friendship, The company of earth  
The chorus of life welcoming you.

None of us alone can save the world.  
Together—that is another possibility waiting.