



# UCC Petaluma

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

**Sun May 15, 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, May 15 masks and pods are optional for in-person worship***

If you prefer a physically distanced seating place, please contact us by replying to this email. We are happy to make a safe space for you based on your needs.

### **Listening Circle May 22 - Moving to 10am worship?**

Please join us for a time to listen with one another regarding a suggestion from our Worship and Spiritual Life Branch to adjust our worship start time to 10am beginning June 12, 2022. If you would like to share your thoughts and feelings regarding this possible change, we will create a safe and encouraging space for you to be heard. We will meet in the sanctuary immediately following worship.

### **UCC Petaluma Book Group - "Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul"**

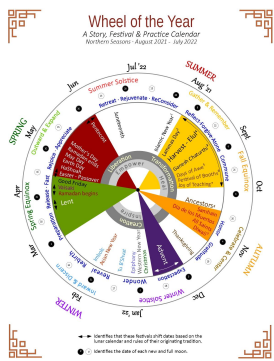
The UCC Petaluma book group will be reading the concluding chapters (8, 9) of "Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul" by John Philip Newell, his new book on Celtic spirituality. Plan to join the discussion on Thursday, May 19, at 10am. Please contact Paul Eklof at [peklof@pacbell.net](mailto:peklof@pacbell.net) for more information and how to join.

In June, the group will begin reading "The Wisdom Way" by Cynthia Bourgeault.

<https://www.copperfieldsbooks.com/book/9780787968960>

### **Memorial for Virginia Breedlove**

Please join us to remember and keep the life of Virginia Breedlove. Her memorial will be held in our sanctuary on Saturday June 25 at 10am. Coffee and cookies will be served afterward. If you are able to volunteer to support this gathering of our church community, please contact Keenan and Patty Foster, Care Branch Leaders, by email at [kameleon25241961@gmail.com](mailto:kameleon25241961@gmail.com)



***The Wheel of the Year*** [Click Here to download a new Wheel of the Year for 2022.](#) 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](#).

**Webinar! May 18, 2022 11:00 AM EST (US and Canada)**

**Resisting Apartheid: Promoting Justice & Planting Olive Trees**

In 2021 and 2022, major human rights organizations such as B'Tselem, Human Rights Watch, and Amnesty International have documented and named Israeli practices and policies as Apartheid. Palestinians, including some Disciples and UCC partners such as the Joint Advocacy Initiative of the Palestinian YMCA and YWCA, have been speaking in these terms, for much longer. As more and more institutions and people are identifying Israeli practices and policies as apartheid, what does it look like on the ground, and why is *important* for the global church community to speak about the legal and ethical aspects in these terms?

Mr. Nidal Abu Zuluf, Director of the Joint Advocacy Initiative, will share about how Israeli policies are consistent with the international legal definition of the crime of apartheid, the ways that Palestinians are affected on a daily basis, and how you can support creative Palestinian non-violent resistance to those policies.

May 18, 2022 11:00 AM EST (US and Canada)

[Click Here](#) to register and receive the Zoom Link!

**Help Make Bread Available to Our Human Family**

Thanks to your previous advocacy, the House voted 384-44 to pass the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act! While this is exciting news, our work together is not over. The bill must now pass the Senate. [Email your senators today](#) and urge them to cosponsor and support the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act (S.2956). As the world faces a worsening hunger crisis – exacerbated by rising food prices and the invasion of Ukraine, let’s do everything we can to advance lifesaving nutrition programs and address rising malnutrition.

**Healing in Ukraine via the UCC: You can help!**

It can be challenging to know how to help with the overwhelming needs of refugees and others due to the war in Ukraine. Europe is turning out with great generosity to assist white folks there - but less so for people of color, including the many refugees and

asylum seekers in Ukraine from the Middle East and Africa. The UCC has focused its efforts on underserved needs of those who are elderly, of African or Middle Eastern descent, and internally displaced and are confident in our partners' ability to address these crucial needs. The situation unfortunately continues to deteriorate quickly and the needs are great. Here are two links about what we are doing and then the giving page link. Or you can send a check to the United Church of Christ, PO Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194. Please note that the UCC directs 100% of your gifts to the relief effort taking no portion for their overhead in supporting this ministry.

[Ukraine Emergency Appeal - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](http://ucc.org)

### **Assistant Update**

We're sorry to share that our recently hired Admin Asst, Denise, has chosen to resign for personal reasons. We will begin again searching for someone with the gifts needed to serve our church's needs.

### **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. In April and May, the group is studying the Psalms. All are welcome whether you have a lifetime of bible study experience or none at all. To learn more, contact Dorothy at 707-540-1796.

### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

7: Diane Ruddell  
14: Al Martin  
21: Ace Holiday  
23: Antoinette McClure (Teddy's granddaughter)  
28: Sherry Eklof  
30: Mark Reischling

### **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

No anniversaries to date

*Sunday May 15 2022*

*Gathering Music*

**“We Shall Overcome ”**

*Traditional*

*Prelude*

**“Lonesome Valley”**

*An American Folk Hymn*

*Unison Reading*

**All:** ‘May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.’ For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, ‘Peace be within you.’ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. ~*Psalm 122*

*Congregational Singing*

**Down in the Valley**

*By Seth Bernard and May Erlewine*

Sun seems to shine a little bit brighter... Down in the Valley  
The grass is greener the water tastes sweeter. **Down in the Valley**

Not talkin' bout heaven not singin' on high. It's time I took a good look at  
what I aint done right. So if you wanna find me, Sunday I'll be...

**Down in the Valley**

Every soldier of every side, they're marchin'... Down in the Valley  
Every leader who sends em to fight, they're walkin' **Down in the Valley**

Not talkin' 'bout heaven, up in the sky, I wanna see heaven fore the day I die  
So if you wanna find peace walk with your enemy. **Down in the Valley**

All of the sinners and all of the saints, they're prayin'... Down in the Valley  
Every religion, every race, they're welcome... **Down in the Valley**

Not talkin' about heaven up in the stars  
It's time to make heaven right where we are  
So if you wanna be free, start walkin' softly... **Down in the Valley**

## *Today's Teaching Scriptures*

### ***Proverbs 18:15-17***

An intelligent mind acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. 16 A gift opens doors; it gives access to the great. 17 The one who first states a case seems right, until the other comes and cross-examines.

***Mark 4:35-41*** That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." 36 Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. 37 A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 38 Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" 39 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. 40 He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" 41 They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

### *Circle Sing*

### ***"Shalom Chaverim"***

### *Postlude*

### ***"Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley"***

*An American Folk Hymn*