



**UCC
Petaluma**

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

Sunday, November 19, 2023

Web: www.uccpetaluma.org

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

Email: 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.*

News & Opportunities - Sunday and Beyond...

This Sunday at 10am

We gather at 10am to explore the biblical possibilities for our practices at Thanksgiving both as a congregation and at home. Due to unexpected repairs required to assure our new flooring is of highest quality, it is uncertain as of this newsletter whether we will meet in our Sanctuary or Friendship Hall. NO matter where we gather, you can be sure to experience the healing, inspiring, and empowering energy of our gathering.

Rejuvenation Update!

Carpet, a new AV console, lighting improvements, and painting all continue this week. Please remember not to walk into the sanctuary at this time as there is likely to be adhesive curing on open unprotected floors! Please look for continued emails inviting your participation to help us in many and varied ways suited to all abilities.

Petaluma Interfaith Thanksgiving - Monday, November 20th 7-8pm:

You are invited to gather with congregations of many traditions for a worshipful gathering that UCC Petaluma has played a significant role in creating and evolving over the last 5 years. Please see the flier at the end of this newsletter for more information!

Trans Day of Remembrance Vigil Webinar Monday Nov 20 4-5pm

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) honors the memory of trans siblings lost to violence against their personhood each year. Remembering those who we have lost is a part of our liturgical practice as people of faith and for queer siblings, especially trans siblings, TDOR serves as a practice of remembering and standing with one another in grief. Register for the webinar [here](#) or view online on the United Church of Christ's YouTube channel.

Learn More...

Last Sunday, Pr Jason read a portion of the Sonoma County Jewish Leaders statement as a part of our prayers for the people. [Click here](#) to read the full statement and share in its thoughtful call for peace in earth.

Volunteers needed for Sundays

UCCP is in need of your hands and hearts to ensure Sunday is the meaningful and valuable experience that is our mission. We are looking for volunteers to help greet folks who come on Sunday mornings, make coffee for friendship hour, and clean-up after friendship hour as well. All abilities can be of service. Please reach out to Marcella Bradley at uccpetaluma@gmail.com if you are able and willing to volunteer at UCCP.

Servant Opportunity! Mail for Seniors at the Holiday

Are you at home and have spare time to share? Are your children looking for a craft to benefit the community? You can send positive cards, postcards, homemade cards, drawings, and encouraging letters to the addresses listed in the link provided [here](#). When received, the staff at the facilities will distribute the mail to those residents who would be blessed by your outreach during this season.

Mark Your Calendars

Tuesday Evenings at 5:45-7:45pm at the Petaluma Library: Bridging social and political divides together during this 4 week series, ending on December 5th, Petaluma Conversation's invites you to join us for an evening of intentional listening. Please use the [registration link](#) to let us know what weeks you can attend, and what topics you would be interested in. To view Petaluma Conversation's statement of purpose please [click here](#).

Monday, November 20th from 7-8pm: Petaluma Interfaith Thanksgiving. Please see the flier at the end of this newsletter for more information!

Tuesday, November 21st at 10am: UCC Petaluma Book Group will continue reading: "Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power—And How They Can Be Restored" by Marcus Borg. We will be discussing chapters 8 - 14. For more information, please reach out to Paul Eklof at peklof@pacbell.net

Friday, December 1st from 4-8pm: Cotati Holiday Tree Lighting 2023! Come join the town of Cotati in their annual Holiday Tree Lighting in La Plaza Park. There will be food and craft vendors, and horse and trolley rides starting at 4:30pm. The night will be full of music, free coffee, hot cocoa, cookies and more! There will be crafts for children, entertainment, and "special" guests! Come join us for a fun filled, magical holiday evening.

Saturday, December 9th from 6-8pm: Lighted Boat Parade! Brightly lit and decorated boats will bring holiday cheer at the Petaluma Lighted Boat Parade. Watch the beautiful boats make their way down the Petaluma River. The boat parade starts at the Petaluma Marina at 5:30pm and the boats arrive at the Turning Basin around 6pm.

Saturday, December 9th: Holiday Candle Lighting at Pleasant Hills Memorial Park in Sebastopol, CA. This candle lighting is a cherished event that creates a beautiful and peaceful atmosphere for reflection and remembrance. Volunteers begin placement of candles at 8am,

and lighting of candles will begin at 4pm. Volunteers are needed to make this special and meaningful tradition to take place for those who have experienced loss. For more information as to how you can help volunteer for this special event, please contact Nicole Vitali at (707)823-5042 or nicole@pleasanthillsmemorialpark.com.

Opportunities for Spiritual Learning & Action

Implore your Congressional members to co-sponsor the Ceasefire Now Resolution

We are deeply saddened by the continued violence, bloodshed, and unfathomable level of grief felt by the many Israelis and Palestinians who have lost friends and loved ones. CMEP calls for the U.S. government to pursue an immediate ceasefire in order to help prevent any further deaths. Implore your Congressional members to co-sponsor the Ceasefire Now Resolution HRes 786 by [clicking here](#).

Learn More About the Alliance for Felix Cove from Sunday's Gathering

Recently we learned of the work to bring honor to the ancestral land of the last Miwok people removed from Point Reyes in 1950. [Click here](#) to learn more and how you can become an ally to their work.

Petaluma People Services Expands Case Management for anyone 60+ in Sonoma County!

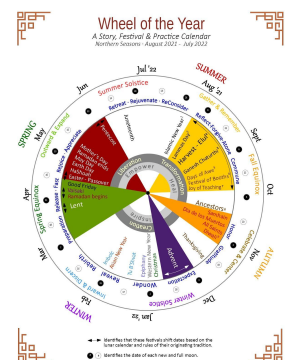
Great news for Sonoma County Seniors! PPSC is expanding their quality Case Management program throughout Sonoma County. This is in partnership with the Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging. If you or someone you know is 60 years and older, living in Sonoma County and would like our person-centered assistance please contact PPSC's Bilingual Case Management Team. 707-765-8488 or cares@PetalumaPeople.org.

Support Transgender Healthcare

The well-being of transgender and non-binary youth is being debated in legislative sessions across the United States. As of March 3 there have been 385 anti-LGBTQ bills introduced, with 108 of these bills aiming to end gender affirming healthcare for trans and non-binary youth. This places more than 54,000 trans youth actively taking life-saving gender affirming medical care at risk. This is the highest number of anti-LGBTQ bills ever introduced in a single legislative season. Please [click here](#) to send your support to congress to defend the marginalized and vulnerable in our nation.

Click Here to download a new Wheel of the Year for 2023.

This 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 & the unique practices of your household. You can download a copy at our [website](#).



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

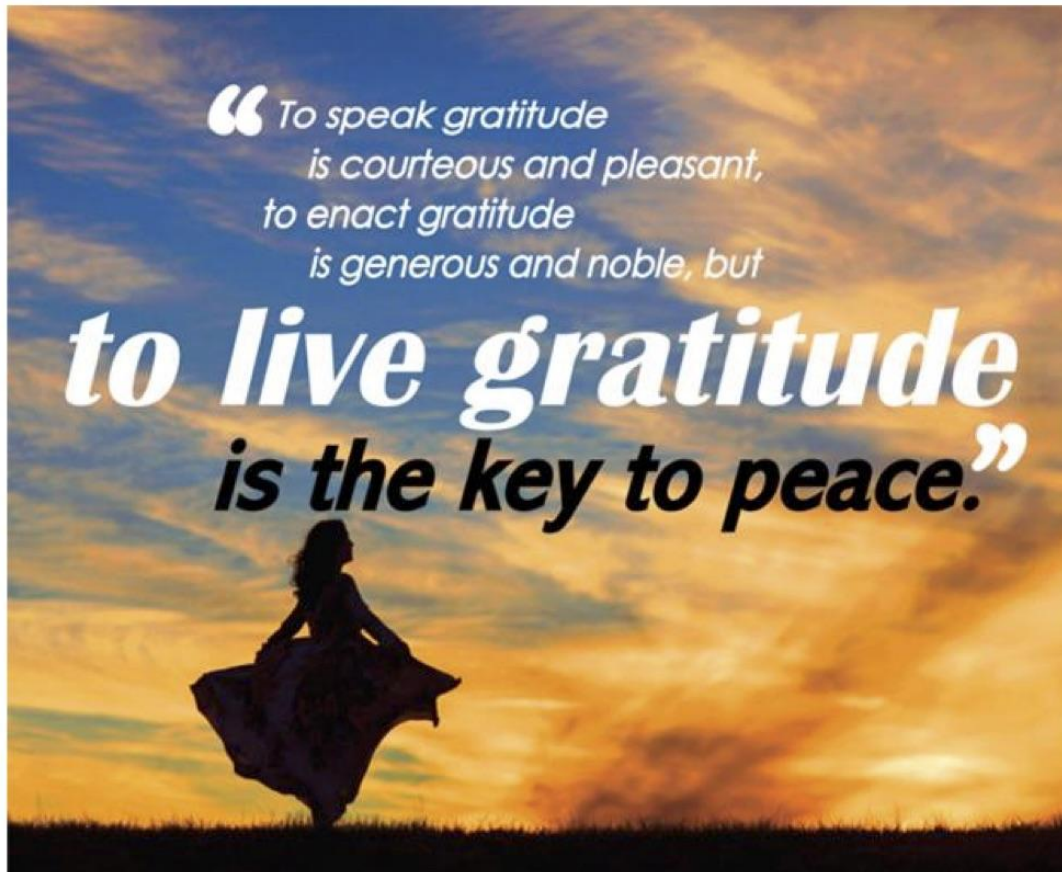
- 1: Lynn Berard
- 5: Ruth Jacobsen
- 12: Kirsten Smith
- 15: Laura Roberts
- 24: Keenan Foster

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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

*Petaluma Interfaith
Thanksgiving Service*

*Monday, November 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
at Elim Lutheran Church, 504 Baker St., Petaluma*



Join us for the 7th Annual Petaluma Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Members of B'nai Israel Jewish Center, Elim Lutheran, St. John's Episcopal Church, the North Bay Hindu Temple, First Presbyterian Church, the Unitarian Universalists of Petaluma, United Church of Christ In Petaluma, and others will gather for prayer, song, and meditation on the theme, "Gratitude: The Key to Peace." All are welcome. A contribution will be collected for the work of World Central Kitchen, feeding people displaced by crisis in Gaza, Israel, Lebanon, Haiti and elsewhere.

The service can be watched online at:

<https://www.elimpetaluma.org/special>