

\* Please send all VIEW submissions to [Newsletter@pacificunitarian.org](mailto:Newsletter@pacificunitarian.org)  
\* Please send requests for a Sunday announcement to: Gary Hart [garyhart@gmail.com](mailto:garylhart@gmail.com)

\* If you're having trouble reading *The View* in your email, [CLICK HERE](#) to download the PDF version



## Pacific Unitarian Church A Unitarian Universalist Community

Committed to the Free and Responsible Search for Truth, Meaning, and Service

# The View



November 29, 2012  
Deadline: Each Wednesday at noon

Hi {FIRST\_NAME|PUCer},  
...and *THE VIEW* from PUC is all about HOME, and all the great events happening at our spiritual home this month!!! Here 'tis, all the PUC news that barely fits in print...REEEEEAAADD AALLL ABOOUUUT IT!



### Minister's Message

#### Coming Home to Buddha

With the second of our Four Horsemen of the Holiday Apocalypse behind us (Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's), we contemplate the place of home in our lives. Throughout this month we will be exploring the meaning of home from its promise through its disappointments. There is so much expectation packed into this time of year that it is little wonder many of us teeter on the edge of a breakdown. Whose home should I go to? Where do I go if I can't or won't go home? What should I bring to this season of giving that feels like home? How can I even afford to give at all?

Normally, your minister would be contemplating the advent of Jesus' birth this time of year. Rest assured, there will be a place and time for that. But let me first suggest another prophet equally suited to the holiday season: The Buddha. The Buddha taught that the root of suffering in the world was our expectations of how life should be. And aren't expectations the very reason for this season? The holidays should bring me joy but I feel worry. The holidays should bring me gifts but I only feel the guilt of not being able to give. The holidays should make me long for home but I am not even sure where home is. It is so easy to be disappointed with the expectations of this season.

So this holiday season I say, RELAX. Less things, more people.

### Upcoming Services: December's Monthly Theme: **HOME**

This Sunday

**9:15 AM** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Forum:

**Faith Like a River:  
Themes From Our UU History**

**10:30 AM Service  
Longing for Home  
Rev. John Morehouse**

In this first of a two-part series Rev. John explores the meaning and place of home in our lives.

### The Weekend At a Glance

#### **Friday, November 30, 2012**

10 AM Watercolor Wkshp - H  
Saturday, December 01, 2012  
10 AM Temple Emet Saturday Service-H

#### **Sunday, December 2, 2012**

9:30 AM Forum - Faith like a River:  
Themes from our UU History - L  
10:30 AM Sunday Services-H  
11:45 AM Youth Choir Rehearsal - CR2  
12:15 PM Buddhist Path to Recovery w/  
Rev. John - L  
2 PM Babylon Mood Middle Eastern Dance  
Show - H  
7 PM Meditation w/ Gilana (Randy) - H  
7 PM Books In Our Lives Covenant Group -  
L

Less worry, more joy living in the present. Come to Church, enjoy the company, the music, and the food. Make this your homecoming. Don't miss our Festivals of Lights, an intergenerational pageant on **December 9**. And as a reminder of how joyful being in the present can be, **December 18-23** we will be welcoming a group of Tibetan Buddhist monks who will be constructing a sand mandala in our Sanctuary for five days. Grain by grain, these monks will create a beautiful symbol of blessing and beauty all out of colored sand. They will then "sweep away" the art at our Worship Service on **December 23**. This is a tremendous opportunity you won't want to miss.

The following day we will have our Christmas Eve Service, complete with candlelight and the PUC Choir, around the theme "Let the Children Come." Please bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share. Finally, on **December 30** will have a performance of Nepalese dancing and a message from my brother Andrew Morehouse, the Executive Director of the Western Massachusetts Food Bank.

Come home to Church,

*With Grace and Grit,  
—Rev. John*

[Minister@pacificunitarian.org](mailto:Minister@pacificunitarian.org)

## Religious Education Matters

- 12/2: Winter fun begins today with **Santa's Workshop!** Our Voyager (Middle School) group will be holding their annual Toberman holiday sale immediately after Church. ([See details below.](#)) Today our children and youth will be making props and singing songs in preparation for our multi-generational holiday *Festival of Lights* Service on **December 9**. Children and youth begin the morning in the worship service and then proceed as a group to the activities of the day
- 12/9: *The Twelve Days of Winter Festival of Lights* multi-generational, [fully participatory](#) Worship Service!! People of ALL ages are welcome when we come together ready for fun and action as we learn about various winter holidays and holy days. Children of all ages welcome; childcare provided as necessary for children under six years.

—Rev. Tamara

1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY ADULT R.E. PROGRAMMING

\* 9:15 AM: Faith Like a River: Themes From Our UU History

12:15 PM: Theological Academy—The Buddhist Path to Recovery  
w/ Rev. John

12:15 PM —Standing on the Side of Love Documentary Series



## Pastoral Care

Longtime PUC member **Tom**

**Rische** is on

hospice care at home. Please keep Tom, his wife Geri, and their family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

*Sunday's Flowers are "Because I LOVE Christmas"*

—Marvel Burke

**The Flower Calendar still needs YOUU! The following Sundays are still open...**

**December 16 & 30**

**2013 dates are now available!**

Please contact the [PUC Office](#) to reserve your date!

*Information about PUC's Big Growth Plan is on the Art Wall for the remainder of the year. Please stop by and give your input.*

## Upcoming Services:

**December's Monthly Theme: HOME**

**12/2: Longing for Home**  
**Rev. John Morehouse**

In this first of a two-part series Rev. John explores the meaning and place of home in our lives.

**12/9: Festivals of Light**

Our annual intergenerational, interactive Service celebrating the "Festivals of Light" that take place at this time of the year.

**12/16: The Light Towards Home**

**Rev. John Morehouse**

In this second of a two-part series, **Rev. John** explores the meaning and place of home in our lives.

**12/23: Embracing Our Inner Light**

**Rev. John Morehouse**

(1st Sunday of every odd-numbered month starting in January, 2013)

[\\* CLICK HERE for your Month-at-a-Glance reference \\*](#)

—Kathy Rickey, Adult Religious Education

## NOTICE: CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY, DEC. 9

There will be a Congregational Meeting after the Service on **Sunday, December 9**. Please attend, or complete an absentee ballot, to vote on the following items:

- The Big Growth Plan budget
- The loan of \$28,000 from the Endowment to kickstart the plan implementation
- Conducting a two week Feasibility Study with the help of the UUA consultant

Please plan on attending this very important Congregational Meeting.

Completed absentee ballots (in a sealed envelope with your name written on the OUTSIDE of the envelope) must be submitted to the PUC Office or a PUC Board Member on the Patio before 12:30 PM, **Sunday, December 9**.

## Save your \$\$!! Toberman "Santa's Workshop" Gift Sale on December 2!!

We are proud to once again partner with [Toberman Neighborhood Center](#), a non-profit community-based organization committed to assisting Harbor Area families and individuals by delivering life-changing services. Please support this great tradition of service at our church; come prepared with cash to visit the "Santa's Workshop" gift store set up by our Middle School "Voyager" youth immediately after the Service and purchase a gift to be donated to Toberman for one of the youth they serve.

## Introducing Our Coordinator of Spiritual Formation and Direction

**Kim Gosney**, a member of our Church, has volunteered to serve as a *Coordinator for Spiritual Formation*. In this role Kim will work closely with the Staff and the Program Council to offer opportunities to deepen our spiritual lives. She has been the coordinator for the Buddhist monks' visit here **December 18-23** and is working on several other projects, including our Christmas Eve Service and the Nepalese dance performance on **December 30**. Starting in January, Kim will be helping to organize a once-a-month evening Service which will be largely experimental in nature featuring dance, drumming and other experiences. She is looking for others who

**Rev. John Morehouse**

In this Advent Service, **Rev. John** shares some stories and thoughts before the giving begins.

## 12/24: Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Join us for this special celebration of the holiday in song & story.

## Two Fun Volunteer Opportunities at PUC!

### 1. Ice or Paper Bag Votive Brigade!

Reach out to PUC's neighborhood for our Christmas Eve Service by making ice or paper bag votives! Make your votive(s) ahead of time and drop off at 4 - 4:30 PM, **Dec. 24** at PUC.

Detailed instructions will be provided on how to make an ice or paper bag votive when you sign up. ANYONE can do this, it is a fun project to do with kids, too. IT IS EASY, EASY, EASY! We will choose to make either ice or paper votives on **Dec. 20** when we have a weather outlook and email our brigade at that time. Contact Kim at [moments2amplify@att.net](mailto:moments2amplify@att.net) to sign up or get more information.

### 2. Children's Activity Table for the Sand Mandala Event.

Extend the warmth of PUC to our delightful wee visitors coming to experience the Sand Mandala! Enjoy facilitating children in coloring pages & cookie decorating. Table will be open Saturday, Dec 22 from 1 - 3 PM and Sunday, Dec 23 from noon - 1:30. This is a great way to make new friends for PUC and continue bonds with old friends. To sign up and get more information, contact Kim at [moments2amplify@att.net](mailto:moments2amplify@att.net)!

If you want a photo of an ice votive I can send one along to you... Thank you!

—Kim Gosney

would like to join in this creative work.

Kim holds a Masters in Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary where she concentrated on spiritual formation through non-traditional encounters with the arts, nature, and immersive experiences in spiritual development. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Grand Canyon College where she double-majored in biblical studies and theater arts (set and lighting design), and minored in music. She works in the event planning industry and is deeply committed to our vision of liberal religion.

Kim will also volunteer time to work with individuals who would like to deepen their spiritual lives through "spiritual direction." A series of three one-hour appointments are available.

## Calling All (Holiday) Cups, Calling All (Holiday) Cups!

The Religious Education Committee is asking us to donate our *nice* Holiday or Festively Themed coffee cups/mugs so we can include a cup with cocoa mix inside it with holiday gift baskets that we make every year.



*UUSC Holiday Cards* are on sale **Sundays** on the Patio.

You will not be able to miss the UUSC table.

### DID YOU KNOW?

\* Over 530 UU congregations in the United States, and some around the world, participate in this important annual tradition of GUEST AT YOUR TABLE.

Together, members of these congregations help raise more funds and memberships each year to support UUSC's mission than any other initiative.

\* Only 4% of your UUSC donations go to administrative costs.

\* Gifts of \$20.00 and up pay for the training in survey collection people to collect data from poultry processing workers on their wages, working conditions, and the most serious issues facing them on the job. The Northwest Arkansas Workers' Justice Center will use these surveys to launch an organized campaign on behalf of workers at a local poultry plant.

More next week on how GUEST AT YOUR TABLE helps others. Please be generous with your support. *If you donate at least \$40 via your Guest At Your Table" box , you will receive a one-year membership in the UUSC.*

—Sandy McNeil

### Sundays

#### *Sunday Adult Religious Education Offerings*

#### 1st Sunday

9:15 PM: Faith Like a River: Themes From Our UU History



### Bed for Sale

"I have a lovely Ikea bed with queen size mattress and 2 matching bedside tables I'd like to sell. Price negotiable."

Contact: Judy Shaffer

[shafferini@aol.com](mailto:shafferini@aol.com)

[See more Member to Member items](#) or [submit your posting request](#).

### *First Sunday Hospitality Special Thanks To Last Sunday's Kitchen Helpers*

**Top chefs:** Vivian Hao and Andy Kissner, who brought together a lovely brunch for all at PUC this past Sunday.

**Sous Chefs:** Doris Peñalosa, Gilana Goff, J.C. Chacon, Pam Harris, & Linda Shahian.

► Bruce Lewis, Andy Kissner, & Mike Mariani continue to move the kitchen upgrades forward and are on schedule for completion by the Holidays!!

Come & carol in the kitchen @ 9 AM Sunday mornings!

Coming up THIS Sunday....ELF Group # 2 sponsors hospitality - Think Mexican Fiesta.... ¡¡¡Olé!!!

Be there. Or. Be square.

*If you like to help* we'd love to have you!

Contact: **Mega Top Chef:** [Francis Morehouse](#); 310 291 3399

### **Ushers:**

Tracy Blender & George Yenoki

### **Welcome Table:**

Marty Gorman

12:15 PM: Theological Academy—The Buddhist Path to Recovery  
w/ Rev. John

12:15 PM —Standing on the Side of Love Documentary Series  
(1st Sunday of every odd-numbered month starting in January,  
2013)

#### 2nd Sunday

9:15 AM: In Nature's Honor: Myths, Rituals, & Holidays Celebrating  
the Earth

12:15 PM: The Transition Companion: Making your Community More  
Resilient in Uncertain Times

#### 3rd Sunday

9:15 AM: UUA Statements of Conscience: Congregational Study  
Issues--The Doctrine of Discovery and Immigration Justice

12:15 PM: Introduction to Unitarian Universalism

#### 4th Sunday

9 AM: 12 Months to a Compassionate Community – A reflection on  
the reading of Karen Armstrong's book, 12 Steps to a Compassionate  
Life

12:15 – 1:30 PM: Leadership Academy—*Leadership and the  
Individual* Module

#### 5th Sunday (9/30/12 & 12/30/12, 3/31/13, 6/30/13)

9:15 AM: Choices in a Jar – Delightful Dilemmas

YRUU High School Group. 10:30 AM, L  
Half a Century Marrieds Group, 5th Sun., 12 noon, Fu Yuan Low Restaurant -  
Next Date: *Sunday, December 30*  
Monthly Town Hall Mtg, 3rd Sun., H  
Great Books Discussion Grp, 7 PM, 2nd Sun., L  
Books in Our Lives Covenant Group, 1st & 3rd Sun., 7 PM, L  
Meditation Circle w/ Gilana (Randy) Goff, 7 PM, All but 1st Sun

#### Mondays

Tai Chi (Pekich), Mondays, 9:30 AM, H  
Women's Reading & Responding Grp, 3rd Mon., 11 AM  
Men's Ministry, Mon., 7 PM, V  
Environmental Covenant Group, 1st Mon., 7:15 PM, L

#### Tuesdays

Aerobics: 8:30 AM, Hiatus

#### Wednesdays

Choir Practice: Wed., 7 PM, H

#### Thursdays

Aerobics: 8:30 AM, H  
Women's Circle, 4th Thursdays, 10 AM  
Tai Chi (Beck), Each Thurs., 10 AM, H  
Seniors Pow Wow to Share How, 3rd Thurs., 11 AM, L  
Environmental Priorities Mtg, 1st Thurs., 7:30 PM, L  
Green Sanctuary/Transition Coffee Clatch. 2nd & 4th Thurs., 8-9 PM, Catalina  
Coffee Co.

#### Fridays

Watercolor Workshop, 10 AM - noon, H  
GBLTQ Movie, 2nd Fri., 7 PM, L

#### Saturdays

French Conversation Grp, 2nd & 4th Sat., 10 AM, V. Call Frank Paulsen or Betty  
Chevron

#### **Greeters:**

Nancy Hofland & Dennis  
Murray

#### **PUC's Board of Trustees**

Gary Hart, President  
Clay Bosler, Secretary  
Pam Harris, Vice-President  
Andy Kissner  
Elaine Nicol  
Ali Oberoi, Treasurer  
Deb Ripley  
Carolyn Waters

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*Sunday Service @ 10:30 AM*

#### **Pacific Unitarian Church, A**

**Unitarian Universalist**

*Community Committed to the Free  
and Responsible Search for Truth,  
Meaning, and Service*



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