

**Sunday, January 4, 2026
10:30 a.m.**

“Soul Focus: Introduction, Part 1 (of 3)”

To have your joys and sorrows shared aloud, please write them on a card found at the table in the entrance lobby, or the table toward the front-right of the Main Hall. A silent candle on the table near the pulpit is always welcome as well. If you're online, later you'll be prompted on when to input your message in the chat box.

UUCPA Mission Statement

We gather, our different paths entwined, to deepen our spiritual lives:
Nourishing connection, learning from each other, caring for each other, tending to our world.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Peter Farriday

Events today:

Sunday School for children and youth preK through grade 8: Sunday 1/4, 10:30 am

Action Council Meeting: Sunday 1/4, 11:45 am, Room 9

Thriving Together – A Health & Wellness Support Group: Sunday 1/4, 11:30 am, Fireside Room

Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting: Sunday 1/4, 12:00 pm, Room 10

Writing Group: Sunday 1/4, 1:00pm, Online

This Week:

First Monday Film Discussion Group: Monday 01/05, 6:30 pm, Online

Brown Bag Books: Tuesday 1/6, 12:00 pm, Fireside Room

Resonant Reading : Wednesday 1/7, 12:00 pm, Online

By Your Side Singers: Wednesday 1/7, 7:30 pm, Hamaker Library

Saturday Meditation: Saturday 1/10, 9:00 am, Online

Selected Upcoming Events:

Celebration of Life for Jerry Strom: Saturday 1/10, 10:30 am, Main Hall

Celebration of Life for Byron & Kay Brown: Sunday 1/11, 1:00 pm, Main Hall

(Our usual 2nd Sunday Lunch will take place on the 3rd Sunday, January 18.)

Prelude

What Does Love Look Like, William Stanfield

Season of Us

Centering Words/Chalice Lighting

Rev. Peter Farriday

Song

This Little Light of Mine (repeat verse 1 to close), No. 118 in the gray hymnal

Words & Music: African American spiritual, c. 1750-1875

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

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Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

Building up a world, I'm gonna let it shine...

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...

Story for All Ages

Each Kindness, Jacqueline Woodson

Rev. Cat Boyle

Reading

abridged from *Appetite for Dysfunction*, Vicky Hamilton

Rev. Peter Farriday

Caring and Sharing

Rev. Peter Farriday

Song

Spirit of Life, No. 123 in the gray hymnal

Words & Music: Carolyn McDade, 1935-, ©1981 Carolyn McDade

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Anthem

The Road Home (Paulus)

UUCPA Choir

Sermon

Soul Focus: Introduction, Part 1 (of 3)

Rev. Peter Farriday

Offering

Look What's Going Down, William Stanfield & Stephen Stills

Season of Us

You can give via credit card or Paypal at www.uucpa.org/connection/donate
or send the text message "uucpaoffering" to the number 44321.
For payments towards your annual pledge, use "uucpa20252026."



Thank you!

Song

Go Lifted Up (sing twice), No. 1057 in the teal hymnal

Words & Music: Mortimer B. Barron, 1939-, ©1993,2004 Mortimer Barron

Go lifted up,
Love bless your way,

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moonlight, starlight
guide your journey
into peace
and the brightness of day.

Chalice Extinguishing

Elizabeth Selle Jones

All

We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth,
the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment.
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

Sung Benediction

UUCPA Choir

Postlude

The Hardest Words, William Stanfield

Season of Us

Benediction

All

Go out into the world in peace
Be of good courage
Hold fast to what is good
Return no one evil for evil
Strengthen the faint-hearted
Support the weak
Help the suffering
Rejoice in beauty
Speak love with word and deed
Honor all beings.

Greeting Time

Music Director: Bruce Olstad

Pianist: Veronika Agranov-Dafoe

Guest Musician: Season of Us (Bill Stanfield, guitar)

Social Justice Partner of the Month: Onyxx Village Connection, <https://www.onyxxvillageconnection.org>

Worship tech and online community creation: Tim Berry, Heather Chen, Paul Kostka, Kevin Ma, Jesse Schwab.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

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(650) 494-0541 — uucpa@uucpa.org — www.uucpa.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/uucpa

Meetup: www.meetup.com/Unitarian-Universalist-of-Palo-Alto

Pastoral emergency: (650) 494-0541, ext. 25

Office hours: Mon.- Thur. 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m

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Minister of Religious Education: Rev. Catherine Boyle, revcat@uucpa.org, x28

Interim Minister: Rev. Peter Farriday, interimminister@uucpa.org, x26

Community Minister: Rev. Jen Dillinger, dillinger@gmail.com

Community Minister: Rev. Melissa Thomson, melcthom@gmail.com

Community Minister: Rev. Stefanie Etzbach-Dale, revsteffi@gmail.com

Music Director: Bruce Olstad, bruceolstad@gmail.com

Pianist: Veronika Agranov-Dafoe, veronika.pianist@gmail.com

Congregational Administrator: Jeff Cashdollar, admin@uucpa.org

Sexton: Enrique Infante