



UCC Petaluma



A Ministry of Hope - A Mission of Healing
Open & Affirming to All
Servants of the Just & the Good

Sunday June 21 9:30am

Find UCC Petaluma at:

Web: www.uccpetaluma.org

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

“Owning The Truths We Don’t Want to See”

*“No [ancient] Jew ever called God abba, yet the evangelists record that Jesus always called God abba, ‘my Father’ (except for the cry from the cross, Mark 15.34).”
~ Joachim Jeremias; emphasis original*

*“To me, Juneteenth matters because it says:
Keep going, the future you want is coming.” ~Veronica Chambers*

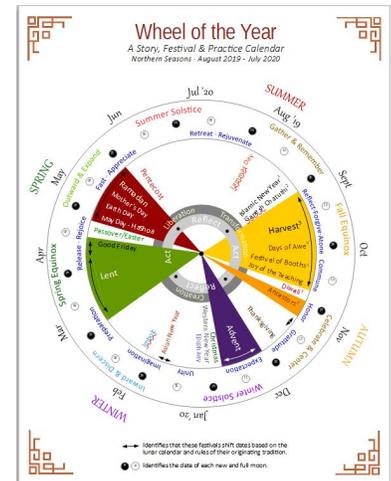
Today’s Scripture

Luke 15:18 [And then the Prodigal one said,] I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned (*hamartone*) toward the heavens and in your sight; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your child; treat me like one of your hired hands.” 20 So he set off and went to his father. And while he was yet a great way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. 21 Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned (*hamartone*) toward the heavens and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son. 22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Prepare the fatted calf and let us eat and celebrate; 24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

The Wheel of the Year

Why would you want to learn about a festival that is not part of your own tradition? Pluralism, a practice upon which we draw at UCC Petaluma, suggests that understanding and respecting the unique traditions of others creates opportunity to grow in one's chosen faith. There is nothing to fear in understanding and appreciating the traditions of others. In fact, our own understanding only grows as we allow others to broaden our perspective.

[Click Here](#) for a printable version of UCC Petaluma's Wheel of the Year. The Wheel of the Year is a [pluralist](#) rendering of a liturgical calendar that helps to guide our focus on the Story, Festival, and Practices of our faith in intentional relationship to traditions around the world. "See" how our story of Pentecost owes a debt to our Jewish roots that first celebrated Shavuot, an agricultural festival that the early mystic jewish-christians developed into what we know as Pentecost, at the end of the Festival season of [Eastertide](#).



The Maypole to the Essential at UCCP

You can add new names every week! This week, we invite you to name the people, places, and practices that are a Fathering Presence in your Life. The Hilltop Maypole at UCC Petaluma is a living, growing work of art using history, tradition, and the names of People, Places, and Practices that we experience as Essential. We've had a wonderful response from folks all over the country. If you use Facebook, please go to the latest [Hilltop Maypole](#)

[Facebook Event by clicking here](#). Each week we'll share a new focus for naming the Essential during Sunday worship and publish an Event on the Hilltop Maypole Facebook Page. We'll share pictures of the Maypole, (like this new one here!) throughout the month so that you can see your creativity added to this traditional structure! Please feel free to visit the Maypole at 825 Middlefield Dr. Petaluma, Ca 94952 but please don't touch the structure so that our artist volunteers remain safe.

Reading

The Stuff of Astounding: A Poem for Juneteenth

By Patricia Smith, excerpted

Please read the entire poem at

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/18/style/juneteenth-celebration.html>

We swear not to be anybody else's idea of free,
lining up precisely, waiting to be freed again and again.

We are breach and bellow, resisting a silent consent
as we claim our much of America, its burden and snarl,
the stink and hallelujah of it, its sicknesses and safe words,
all its black and otherwise. Only those feigning blindness
fail to see the body of work we are,
and the work of body we have done.

Everything is what it is because of us.

It is misunderstanding to believe that free fell upon us
like a blessing, that it was granted by a signature
and an abruptly opened door.

Listen to the thousand ways to say black out loud.
Hear a whole people celebrate their free and fragile lives,

then find your own place inside that song.

Make the singing matter.

Song

From the Kundalini Yoga tradition in honor of International Day of Yoga - June 21

May the LongTime Sun shine upon you

All Love surround you

And the pure Light within you

Guide your Way on

Sat~Nam

A Lord's Prayer
By Tom Hall

Eternal Spirit, Source of all that is and ever shall be,
Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven,
May knowledge of your holiness inspire all peoples,
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom
flourish on earth until all of humankind
heed your call to justice and compassion.
May we find the bread that we need for today,
And for the hurts we cause one another
May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.
In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong;
When life seems overwhelming, help us to endure;
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver us.
May you reign in the power of human love,
Now and forever. Amen.

Song

Love Song For My Father

by Jason Hubbard

In Remembrance & Keeping of

John Welch Hubbard

son of John Rockwell Hubbard

June 17, 2020

Hey Father, don't you worry - 'cuz I'm comin' home real soon.
And when I get there, I'm gonna sing you this love song-
A love song I wrote for you.

Hey Papa, I never wondered, who it was that cut the road for me.
But now that I'm older, I can see your kind foot steps.
The ones you never asked me to see.

And now that my father has gone to his glory.
When they're callin' Papa, that's me.
So hear me as I promise, "I'll do my best to love you."
As well as my father loved me.

Now not every trav'ler, is blessed with a Father
Whose family taught them how to love.
But we can meet them on the journey - and bless them like a father
or simply the Presence they need.

So Father I thank you, I thank you for bein' - bein' the one who made me.
'Cuz if you weren't my father, I'd wanna call you Papa.
For just as I am, you loved me.

So fathers please hear me. I'm askin. I'm beggin'
Don't waste your time like a fool
Your drowin' in loved ones who simply want you to be there.
They don't need a hero - they need you.

Opportunities for Mission & Ministry

Update on Gloria and her children

Our friend and Pastor at UCC Ministerio Latino in Oakland, Rev. Rhina Ramos, reached out recently to let us know that Gloria and her children are again facing homelessness due to a lack of work during this extraordinary time. As you may know, Gloria and her two boys migrated here from El Salvador to avoid violence. They have struggled greatly due to documentation and the loss of work that COVID-19 has made a reality for millions. Rhina wanted us to know that our recent ministry is making a real difference for Gloria's family as it allows much more of their income to go toward housing. Gloria is being supported in moving toward greater housing security by Ministerio Latino and others. If you made a commitment to support Gloria and have not yet been able to send a check to our office at 825 Middlefield Dr Petaluma, Ca 94952, please take a moment now to do so now. Or, you make make a new or continuing donation at our website PayPal Donation button and place Gloria's name in the memo. Your generosity is more important to Gloria and her children than ever.

Do you have clothing that you would normally contribute to Goodwill or other Thrift organizations but can't due to Shelter in Place? Our own Susan Stone is seeking contributions to her work with those in need. Please reach out to Susan if you can share your donations with her organization. (707)565-7842

Support Bread for the World who is advocating with congress for programs serving the most vulnerable people in the country and abroad at this pandemic time. With these links you can write to your Senators and Representative at the same time just by filling in name and address and your 9 digit zipcode. It's even more effective if you personalize the subject line and some of the message. [Click Here to send a letter regarding the first of these programs](#) is the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program, which would get nutritional resources to families who have lost access to school meals. [Click Here to send a letter regarding the second program](#) that provides \$12 billion for a global response in the poorest countries.