Summary of Sunday Services

10:30 am

5th January - “Building a Practice”
The new year is a perfect time to renew an old practice or build a new one. Some thoughts on building a Buddhist practice. Ven. Kusala Bhikshu
Lay Leader: Catherine Rowlee

12th Jan, 2020: (Setting our Intention for 2020!)
Rev. Pratima Dharm and Amy Randall will lead this multigenerational service on how to set our ‘Intention’ in the New Year (2020) to facilitate a life that is built truly upon who we are and our dreams on 12th Jan. This service will also celebrate the Indian harvest festival called ‘Makar Sankranti’.

19th Jan, 2020 “When Our Conscience Calls, How Do We Answer?”
Speaker: Rev. Ellen Livingston, MVUUC Minister Emerita
Lay Leader: Catherine Rowlee
On this Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr. Day we will honor Dr. King and his legacy by taking this occasion to look again at our fifth UU principle: “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large.” Our concerns for the rising rate of racism and the fragility of our democracy call on us to ponder how to make moral decisions of conscience, individually and collectively

26th Jan, 2020 “Touch the Earth, Reach the Sky”
Rev. Maggie Burbank Yenoki
One of the best ways for grounding and growing is to connect with our sense of belonging, and then to reach toward a stronger connection with our highest selves. Engaging with the Sacred and co-creating a healthy way forward will ground us in these times of change, and we will grow from our shared experiences. As our UU hymn by Grace McLaren illustrates so well, we will ground and grow as we “Touch the Earth and Reach the Sky!”
Dear Beloved Community,

Happy New Year to all! We have a lot to look forward to. The last service of the year 2019 was the Poetry Potluck, led by Maribel Dana and Catherine Rowlee. Those of you attending know that there was tremendous creativity, deep reflection, and wonderful humor that was shared among our congregants and visitors.

We ended with singing Robert Burns’ 1833 Auld Lang Syne, trying to form a circle holding hands, but we had an irregular polygon instead. I found out recently that the reason this is our traditional New Year’s Eve song is because Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians performed it on national radio every year starting in 1929, until 1976. So a Scottish song, nearly randomly selected by an Italian Canadian, became America’s best known tradition to ring in the New Year.

I'm hoping to see a lot of our congregation and friends show up for Roy Zimmerman's concert that he's titled "Rize Up!" That'll be Friday, January 17, 7:30 PM here in our sanctuary. Having seen Roy Zimmerman a number of times, enjoying each performance immensly, I know you will not want to miss it. He's one of the most clever songwriters alive, and his songs have significance as well as laugh out loud humor.

Let your friends and family know - it's pay what you can, though the suggested ticket price sold at the door is $25. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. There are no advance ticket sales. Please be here.

Warm Regards, Cynthia Allaire
MVUUC Board of Trustees President
REflections

It is 2020! We are offering you a new year, a new semester, a new curriculum, and a new playground.

Come see all the changes and fun we will have this year! Thanks to Montessori, with some help from us, we have an upgraded playground. Just look at the pictures! We have a new play structure, artificial grass, and a playhouse built by congregant Marcel Goedemans.

Our new semester includes 3 classes: Chalice Children for our toddlers, and preschoolers. They continue to learn in a safe environment by having fun playing, crafting, and listening to stories.

Our elementary class will be doing a curriculum called *Spirit of Adventure*. The famous Unitarian Universalists in this series lived lives which exemplified our UU identity.

The themes include Sports, Medicine, Food, Science, Exploring, and the Web of Life. The activities are lively and fun. We still have our Reflection Room available for those days when a child would like a quieter choice of activities.

Our YRUU group will include junior and senior high youth. They are planning a series of field trips – both fun and educational – for the year. Bring your kids and check out our playground and our programs!

Faithfully Yours,
Amy Randall
Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration
Credentialed Associate
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CALAPAYAN CONGREGATION

MONTEVISTA-CALAPAYAN PARTNERSHIP

CONGREGATIONAL AND PARTNERSHIP BACKGROUND

Unitarian Universalist Church Calapayan Congregation was founded in the year 1997 as fellowship having 15 members. The minister was Rev. Samuel Gino- an ordained Minister who came in Calapayan on the same year. The fellowship was held in the house of Hercolano Gino (where the existing chapel now has built) every Sunday together with the family of Caparida, Diacosa, and Eustaquio Gino who was the eldest of Rev. Samuel’s siblings. After a year of fellowship, Rev. Samuel Gino applied for recognition in the UUCP National Office in Dumaguete City during the Annual Convention. After the compliance of all the requirements, the UUCP Calapayan Fellowship was approved by the assembly and became a congregation in the year 2000.
In the year 2001, there were few folks from nearby city who transferred in our place and they eventually joined and actively participated in the church activities. It was headed by Violito Legaspi and family and Teresito Cebe. Due to their participation, the congregation became so alive and lead to encourage people to be active in the congregation.

Another folks from Sipalay City arrived in our community- Naldo Jorulan and Family and Romeo Palabrica and Family from nearby village of Culipapa. The small community continued to grow and share the different culture from their respective areas. Members were happy, encouraged and helped each other. They have tried their best in sending their children to school for education despite of poverty and the long distance of walk in going to school.

In 2007, the UUCP Calapayan congregation had been chosen by UU Montevista as their partner church under the leadership and effort of Rev. Nihal Attanayake- the UUCP President at that time, some UUCP Staff, Julie Steinbach, Jackie Albay-Yenney, Dave and others from UU of Montevista.

From that time, they extended some financial support for the renovation of chapel and the construction of box culvert in the creek for easy access of the people. They also have student fund for educational purposes from Elementary and High School. Balikbayan boxes were also shared to Calapayan folks which includes books, reading materials, recreational activities materials, foods, and personal hygiene. Because of your generosity, many children are encouraged to go to school and finish their elementary, High School and even College.

Our partnership with Montevista has already bear some fruits. Two souls have reaped the blessings. One is Edna Jurolan who finished her Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education because of the full support from Montevista. Another is Doni Boy Gino, who graduated and successfully pass the License Board Examination in BS Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering. Currently he is the UUCP National Internal Auditor, UU Ministerial Formation student and Government Employee in Bayawan City, Negros Oriental. And the third is Margie Diacosa, a BS Information Technology- presently a regular employee in a private sector. The UUCP Calapayan is now growing with a total member of more than 50 (aging 8- years old and above). We have 12 students in High School, 13 in Elementary, and 1 in college (Angel Malabago, an active youth taking Midwifery in Ilo-iло City.

UU Calapayan Congregation: MINISTERIAL ACTIVITIES

- REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICE FOR ADULT
- YOUTH SERVICE (every 1st and 4th Sunday of the month)
• CHILDREN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (R.E Teacher: Mischelle Jurolan (she was trained last October 24-26, 2019 at Dumaguete City together with other participants from different congregation).

• BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION (depending on the schedule of birthday).

• THANKS GIVING

• AND OTHERS
  Note: Every Sunday after the service, pure organic foods for lunch and snacks has been served.

Other important information: The UU- Calapayan Congregation has a total budget of PhP200,000.00 intended for land acquisition in Brgy. San Rafael as a new site for the construction of New Chapel and other congregation facilities. It was allocated before for 1 hectare land area based on project proposal made by Rev. Rebecca Sienes. However, due to price escalation of the properties of about 500,000.00, we decided to hold the budget and look for another area. Now, we are still looking and hope that we could find areas for our development plan in the next 5 years.

Development plan:

1.) New chapel in a large community area

2.) Income generating project with permaculture design

3.) UU-Calapayan College Fund (the graduate student from partnership beneficiaries will be having a small contribution for the college student. Policy and other matters will be followed when it will finalized)  

Note: We made this development plan to practice and apply the UU principles not only to the members but also to the community where life and hope still exist.

UU- Calapayan Student Monitoring

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<tr>
<th>Educational Level</th>
<th>No. of Student</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. ELEMENTARY</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>DOING FINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. HIGH SCHOOL</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>DOING FINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. COLLEGE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>DOING FINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. PRE-SCHOOL</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>IMPROVING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Note: Each students from different educational level has potential to excel, thus they received awards.

In behalf of Calapayan-Montevista Partnership, here are the current information from the Calapayan Congregation
Julie Steinbach,
Partnership Committee

STUDENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

Mary-an Palabrica during child Dedication Ceremony.

Usually, we are doing candle lighting every opening of classes and New Year’s Day.
After Worship, we did some pictorial with so cute, lovely and beautiful dolls from UU Montevista Partners. We thank you so much for the undying care, support morally and financially and the guidance Merry Christmas and advance Happy New Year. We love you all!! CALAPAYAN!!