



## LEARN TO SING SACRED HARP

Free “singing school” on three Sundays:  
Sept. 11, 25, and Oct. 9,  
from 1-2 p.m.



*Followed by the regular South Bay singing, 2-4 p.m.*



**Location:** in the Fireside Room, Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94306.

**Directions:** Highway 101 to exit 400 San Antonio Rd. headed south. Take first right onto Charleston Rd. Go 0.6 miles and the church will be on the right, just after the intersection with Middlefield Rd.

**Two optional field trips:** to the San Francisco monthly singing on Sun., Sept. 18, 1:30-4:30; and to the Berkeley weekly singing on Monday, Oct. 3, 7:30-9:30.



### SINGING SCHOOL LEADERS:

**Julian Damashek**, a graduate student at Stanford, started singing Sacred Harp in Massachusetts and has since traveled to numerous singings around the country. He has taught multiple singing schools on the musical aspects of Sacred Harp singing. He also plays guitar and banjo.

**Marsha Genensky** has recorded and performed Sacred Harp music professionally, and has taught classes in Sacred Harp at Stanford Continuing Education.



**Sacred Harp** is a uniquely American tradition that brings communities together to sing four-part hymns and anthems. It is a proudly inclusive and democratic part of our shared cultural heritage. There are no rehearsals and no performances. Every singing is a unique and self-sufficient event with a different group of assembled participants.

The singers sit in a hollow square formation with one voice part on each side, all facing

inwards so we can see and hear each other.

Sacred Harp singing is sometimes called “shape note singing” because the musical notation uses note heads in 4 distinct shapes to aid in sight-reading, but it is often called “Sacred Harp” singing because the books that we use today is called *The Sacred Harp*. Specifically, we use the 1991 Denson edition. The term “sacred harp” refers to the human voice — that is, the musical instrument you were given at birth.



For more information, contact Dan Harper ~ danharper@uucpa.org ~ 650-494-0541x28.