

August 2019



UUCOD Monthly Newsletter

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Tim Nguyen-Photographer

Dear Friends

August 2019

*“Spiritual Growth through Personal Connections.”
The Mission of Chalice Circle Small Groups*

It may look like things are quiet here at UUCOD but leadership is busy! We are preparing for the Fall. A new floor is being installed next week and Chalice Circle programming is being readied.

*I like to say that “all theology is grounded in autobiography.” A facilitated Chalice Circle conversation is one way we grow as we share our thoughts and feelings about a big topic in the context of our real life experience. We deepen our connections, learn from our lives and grow! *Spiritual growth through personal connection.* Monthly Chalice Circle small groups will be starting in October. There will be more information in the weeks ahead.*

We at UUCOD welcome everyone who is seeking to learn from experience and live into our truer selves. That ‘self’ is beyond label or sect, creed, color, gender, sexuality, immigration or economic status or ability. That self partakes in the universal while at the same time being very much bound by the individual particularity of time and space. Every day we confront

our finitude.

In this time of exhaustive and exhausting coverage of our national policy makers, it seems to me, that it is essential that we task ourselves with growing the healthy and moral core of our human natures and our community. We invite one another to affirm what is most useful and healthy in our individual lives and to deepen the shared values of this congregation and our movement. The “*me*” and the “*we*”.

I want to let you know about a day-long program I will be attending. It is called **Multicultural Transformation Day**. In contrast to the toxic talk and actions of national leaders, this program empowers and builds us up. It is being held on October 19th at the Monte Vista UU Congregation In Montclair. We could car pool if you want to go. Go to this link for a description and information. Let me know if you are interested.

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/PacificWesternRegionUUA/MulticulturalTransformationDayMonteVista>

It is August. I will take some vacation this month. I know my own finitude. Meanwhile, I am here now. In addition to preparing for the coming months together, I am intentionally limiting my diet of unhealthy (anti) social media that profits from anxiety and pain, so I can better focus on where we can effect our best shared ministry. Much is being planted and much will bloom in the year to come. I am glad to share this time with you.

*In good faith,
Rev Barbara*

SERVICES



August 4, 2019

Keeping Them

Often one of the first truly earnest questions of childhood is “Dad (or Mom), can I keep her/him? *Please!*!” Today’s service looks at our human relationship with animals, exploring what it means, in ways small and large, to “keep them.” Please be with us.

Worship Leader: Rev. Carolyn Price

Worship Associate: Frank Riela

August 11, 2019

Growing Up as a Jehovah's Witness-My Personal Journey

Lance will share his experience growing up a Jehovah's witness and finding Unitarian Universalism.

Worship Leader: Lance Phillips-Martinez

Worship Associate: Sarah Gonzales

August 18, 2019

Building Walls or Bridges... What matters more?

The walls in our lives and the need for building bridges instead!

Worship Leader: Rabbi Jules King

Worship Associate: Bryna Blum

August 25, 2019

Wastepaper Record

Reflections on my experience of Zen Buddhism and the writings of Tachibana no Someko, 1667-1705, a Japanese woman who opened her “wisdom eye”.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

Worship Associate: Josette Pacino

CALENDAR

Saturday, August 3

1:30 pm-Drop In Scrabble

Sunday, August 4

10 am-Worship Service

2 pm-DOS Choir

Monday, August 5

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, August 6

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

10 am-Stewardship

Thursday, August 8

7 pm-Bridge

Sunday, August 11

Socks on the Second

10 am-Worship Service

Monday, August 12

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, August 13

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

5:30 pm-Membership

Thursday, August 15

7 pm-Bridge

Saturday, August 17

Monday, August 19

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, August 20

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

Thursday, August 22

7 pm-Bridge

Friday, August 23

1:30 pm-Afternoon Book Club

Sunday, August 25

10 am-Worship Service

Monday, August 26

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, August 27

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

4 pm-Worship Committee

Thursday, August 29

7 pm-Bridge

Sunday, September 1

Food on the First

10 am-Worship Service

2 pm-DOS Choir

Monday, September 2

5:30 pm-Meditation

2 pm-Scrabble

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Sunday, August 18
10 am-Worship Service
2 pm-DOS Choir

Tuesday, September 3
8:30 am-Weight Watchers

SOCIAL JUSTICE

August 4, PB&J Food on First for Well

This will be our final PB&J Food on the First for Well in the Desert this summer. In September we return to Oasis/Migrant Ed healthy food pantry donations. For August 4: Well in the Desert Palm Springs makes PB&J sandwiches to hand out to homeless persons along with bottled water. Sealed jars of peanut butter, jam, jelly and preserves can be left in the UUCOD lobby brown bin usually used for Oasis School, since we will not collect for Oasis until September. Please hold onto the bread and water and bring them on August 4 to keep bread fresh and due to bulkiness of cases of water. Thanks so much to those who brought PB&J, water and bread in July to help Well in the Desert with their lifesaving work!



August 11, Socks on the Second for Galilee OLOG shelter

Bring new socks for men, women and children for asylum seekers in transit. They flee violence at home in Central America. Galilee's Our Lady of Guadalupe (OLOG) farmworker shelter in Mecca hosts both farmworkers and asylum seekers. Asylees are still expected in July to stay a few days until bus or plane tickets can be secured to travel to relatives in US. Asylees are need of key items to take on their journeys. Socks are a big help! Bring them July 14 or place in brown lobby bin usually used to collect socks for the Well.

Summer share the plate totals

Thanks to all who have given this summer to support the Galilee Center and its OLOG shelter serving migrant farmworkers and asylum seekers. From your STP donations, UUCOD was able to send Galilee Center checks for \$258 in June and \$226.00 in July for a total of \$484.00 to date to support their services to those in need. Thank you all so very much!

Every Sunday: Goods for asylum seekers

In triple digit heat, our own Leslie and Vikki drive supplies to Galilee's OLOG shelter in Mecca. Border Patrol here releases some asylees to travel in US to join relatives. They wait at OLOG for bus and plane tickets. They need toiletries and clothes in sizes for smaller adults (no large) and for children (list follows). Bring items to church and place on floor to right of lobby bins & mark FOR GALILEE FAMILIES.

Backpacks, shoelaces, diapers, baby wipes, gently-used children's clothes (ask neighbors with kids), maxi-pads (no tampons), new underwear for women, men and children, socks, full-sized antiperspirant, lip balms, combs, razors, soap, soap case, travel-sized shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes with covers, and new or clean gently-used shoes, sweatshirts, sweaters or jackets.

Thank you to all who sent goods or checks for Galilee. □□□□♥

EVENTS



August 4, 2019 Special Collection for the Four-Leggeds!

On August 4th the theme of the worship service, *Keeping Them*, led by Rev. Carolyn and Worship Associate Frank Riel will our human relationship to animals.

As part of the service, Rev. Barbara, Frank and I are asking for donations of **cat/kitten and dog/puppy food** for the *Imperial*

Valley Humane Society, which has a huge influx of animals this time of year, and incredibly meager resources. For those of you who don't know, the Imperial Valley (where Rev. Carolyn & spouse Orval Osborne live) lies to the south of Coachella Valley, past the Salton Sea. While the weather there is the same, the Imperial Valley is the most impoverished county in all of California.

We cannot overstate how much your help is needed, and will be appreciated. The Shelter uses only the following food:

CAT FOOD *Kirkland Maintenance Cat Food* - available at Costco
DOG FOOD *Pedigree*, adult and small dog - available at grocery stores

KITTEN FOOD: *Purina Kitten Chow* - available at grocery stores
PUPPY FOOD *Nature's Domain* from Costco.

Orval & I are traveling much of July, but look so forward to being back among you come August. With thanks, in advance, for your kindness and generosity to our four-legged friends.

Rev. Carolyn

Sunday, August 4th – Thursday, August 8, 2019 TURNING THE TIDES: Intergenerational Justice Summit & Camp Camp de Benneville Pines

Justice-seeking UUs of all ages are invited to register for UUMCA's multi-day justice leadership summit in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California. See flyer for more info.

Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of California

TURNING THE TIDES
Intergenerational Justice Summit & Camp

Camp de Benneville Pines
Sunday, August 4 – Thursday, August 8, 2019

Justice-seeking UUs of all ages are invited to register for UUMCA's multi-day justice leadership summit in the San Bernardino Mountains of Southern California. Programming includes collaboratively-led worship, relationship building, a **Reproductive Justice** Keynote by Rev. KC Slack, and powerful workshops with guest facilitators, including:

Activism: Collectively Imagining a Better World
with Jose Serrano (World Relief)

Expanding Sanctuary & Accompaniment
with Katia Hansen (UURISE)

"Brave New Films" Documentary Screening & Discussion
with Tahil Sharma (Brave New Films)

Deep Roots: Our Ancestors & Elders in Justice
with Ranwa Hammamy (UUMCA)

Value-Centered Grassroots Partnerships & Direct Action Training
with the UU Service Committee

Creating Climate Justice
with the UU Ministry for the Earth

...and, multiple opportunities for YOU to lead conversations, activities, and programs!

Full Registration for Adults:	\$260.00
Full Registration for Youth:	\$200.00
Partial Registration (2 days):	\$150.00
Infants (0 – 2 years old):	Free

More Details & Registration at uumca.org/TurningTheTides
Email info@uumca.org to learn about our discount registration options!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



NOTICE! NOTICE!

CHURCH BUILDING WILL BE CLOSED FROM TUESDAY AUGUST 6 THROUGH FRIDAY AUGUST 9, 2019 FOR INSTALLATION OF NEW FLOORING.

ADMIN WILL BE IN THE OFFICE ON MONDAY AUGUST 5, 10AM-2PM. OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK. ADMIN WILL BE AVAILABLE BY EMAIL.

IF YOU HAVE A COMMITTEE MEETING, PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET ELSEWHERE

QUESTIONS: CONTACT JANE ZAUN

NEW FLOORING IS READY FOR UUCOD!

Come to this Sunday's Worship Service August 4, 2019 and stay for coffee, cookies as usual...

Then stay and HELP US, HELP US, HELP US! Join a Sunday work party to prepare for the installation.

HELP US - Boxbooks and materials from cabinets so the installers can move the furniture.

HELP US - Move chairs and take down the tables in the community room

HELP US - Clean out extra materials from restrooms

Safety Committee:

Your Safety Committee is working hard to formulate a safety plan for us. This is a multifaceted project!! We want you to know that the City of Rancho Mirage has listed dates on their webpage for the next CERT training. **November 12, 13, & 14. -- 3 days from 8:00-5:00 each day.**

CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team. The City offers this training for their residents and since UUCOD is located within the City, we may also join one of their classes. They offer the CERT training in November and April.

We invite anyone interested to check the webpage of the City of Rancho Mirage at <https://ranchomirage.ca.gov/>. Then click on Residents, then click on CERT Training. This training is the Basic Course.

The process is to complete the form with your email and name then submit. The City will post a list of attendees in October. If you want to attend, better complete the form as soon as possible.

DIRECTORY UPDATE - SUMMER 2019

We have an active congregation. Since the Annual Directory, we've gained new members and new friends, moved, and changed information. This directory is to let you know what is happening so you can communicate. On Sundays, at church, see Marion Ellson for your directory.

The annual of directory of members and friends will be printed in the fall. If you have changes, want to be included or deleted please fill out a form at the Membership Table by September 29th. Directories are only distributed to those are in the directory.

From members John Hammond/Joyce Adams

For those interested in science and space you may enjoy watching our son Noah Hammond, a planetary scientist when he appears on PBS/BBC Nova Series the Planets airing in August. His episode is The ICE Planets on August 14th. We can program DVRs to tape this for many on vacation including us.

Blessings, John and Joyce

UUSC

Throughout August, Congress will be in recess, and members of the House and Senate will be back in their home districts to meet with their constituents. Some important and positive human rights legislation has recently passed the House but has stalled in the Senate. UUSC is focusing our energies on applying pressure there, where we have the potential to make significant change.

We are calling on people to schedule in-district visits with their senators during August 19 - 30 to share one of these demands:

- Defund abusive government agencies that are separating families and terrorizing communities
- Defend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for migrants whose long-term legal status is at risk
- Condemn repression in Honduras by the U.S.-backed regime
- Ensure accountability in Burma for genocide and crimes against humanity

Now is a critical time to demand that our legislators take action in support of our fundamental values.

We encourage groups visiting their senators to focus on only one of these topics per visit so that you can be as impactful as possible. [More details about each of our human rights demands can be found here](#), along with talking points that can also be printed as packets to leave behind at your senator's office.

Check out our UUSC Guide for Congressional In-District Visits for more information about how to schedule and plan a visit with your legislators, with guidance on how to make the most of your meeting.

In Solidarity,

Rev. Kathleen McTigue

Director of Activism and Justice Education

BOARD NOTES

These board notes do not constitute official minutes of the Board of Directors meeting but are intended to inform the congregation of matters discussed at the meeting. Official minutes of this meeting will be available after the next Board meeting on September 17, 2019. At the meeting of the UUCOD Board of Directors on July 16, 2019 the following matters were discussed and/or decided.

- Attitude of Gratitude Cards sent to Glenn Yamaguchi, Marion Ellson, and Sheryl Eaton.
- The UUA website has Leader training specifically for the Board. Jane reviewed the five responsibilities of Board members.

- Heard a report from Facilities regarding the new flooring for the foyer, hallway and restrooms. It is Luxury Vinyl Plank called Lifeproof Breezy Stone. It is waterproof, has a green FloorScore rating and a commercial warranty, and simple maintenance. Compared to polished concrete or Marmoleum alternatives the price is within our budget. That allowed us to also replace the damaged men's restroom floor and eliminate floor covering transitions. Installation will be overseen by Glenn Yamaguchi with assistance from Mel Wilkinson.
- Approved the job description for the Director of Music position.
- Requested the Nominating Committee search for the vacant Board position of Director at Large.
- Moved to discontinue the Book Program. Books are available now free to congregants. The remaining books will be sold at our October Garage sale.
- Approved Mel Wilkinson as the Historian/Archivist.
- Agreed to move the time of future Board meetings to 5:00pm on the 4th Thursday.

SAVE THE DATE

More info to follow on each of these upcoming events as their dates draw nearer:

Saturday, October 5: Garage Sale

Contact: Carol Lavoie

Saturday, November 9: Annual Service Auction

Contact: Carol Lavoie

Friday, December 8 at 3pm: Roy Zimmerman: Musical Satirist

(<http://www.royzimmerman.com/bio.html>)

Contact: Jane Zaun

Friday, January 10-Sunday, January 12, 2020: Women's Retreat in Borrego Springs

Contact: Vikki Porter

Saturday, January 25: Suzanne Sheridan Concert (<https://suzannesherdanmusic.com/>)

Contact: Rev. Barbara

Saturday, February 15, 2020: Cabaret Night

Contacts: Peter Mathews and Carol Lavoie

Newsletter Deadlines: The deadline for the Newsletter is always Wednesday morning. If you are going to be late, call or email the Administrator at admin@uucod.org asking to reserve space. The newsletter needs to be on the website by 3 pm, Fridays.

Visit our website

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert

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