

October 2019



## UUCOD Monthly Newsletter

### MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Tim Nguyen-Photographer

At The Heart of It October 2019

On Sept 20th more than ten of us from UUCOD were a part of the world wide Climate Strike. We gathered with many others outside of Congressman Ruiz's office. It gave me hope that humanity might unite to mitigate the worst of global warming.

I lament that the highest elected officials of the US continue to deny science and do nothing, when it is clear that climate change is happening. The warming and rising of seas, melting glaciers, extreme weather "events", desertification, deforestation, fires, extinctions and more of a warming earth are causing suffering, loss of habitat, loss of livelihood, loss of life. Now instead of loving us forward, national leaders seek to undo common sense regulations, to roll back California state regulations that improved air quality, increased efficiency and moved us in the direction of renewable energy.

While that plays out in the courts, each of us can resolve to change or at least moderate our everyday behaviors that contribute to the degradation of our planet. We can examine our congregational behaviors, and local government polices and change what needs to be changed. Persisting in core adaptive changes takes resolve, encouragement, and communal support.

I hear the words of 16 year-old Swedish climate activist, Greta Thunberg, from her UN speech to the world's adult diplomats last Monday. "You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. The eyes of all future generations are upon you. And if you choose to fail us, I say: We will never forgive you."

She is talking to you and me.

*Rev Barbara*



## SERVICES



**September 29, 2019**

**Something Good is Happening**

Despite appearances to the contrary, especially in the political arena, there is always something positive going on, something good happening, in our immediate world. Betty Bender says it's a friendly universe. Come hear why she thinks life is so good.

Worship Leader: Betty Bender

Worship Associate: Roger Beaman

**October 6, 2019**

**Atonement**

We are in the midst of the Jewish High Holy days, the ten "Days of Awe", when the book of life is open and God decides if your life will be inscribed in the book for another year. These days end with the most solemn of holy days, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. What is universal within this religious tradition that can enlighten us, and help us to lead lives worthy of the gift we have been given.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

Worship Associate: Shirley LeMaster

**October 13, 2019**

**For Eleanor Rigby**

How is loneliness different from being alone, from solitude? How has it changed in this era of polarized politics, social media and increased secularism? And, importantly, what are some useful responses, when a response is warranted, to the human condition of loneliness?

Worship Leader: Rev. Carolyn Price

Worship Associate: Josette Pacino

**October 20, 2019**

**The Invitation**

It is 60 years since this community of faith was "born". In honor of that occasion, I thought I'd share a sermon where I contemplate how we who are mortal, we who are all too perishable, put on immortality. You likely have your own ideas. I will share this with a little help from friends, Terry and Shirley LeMaster, Chet Cole & Betty Bender

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

Worship Associate: Betty Bender

**October 27, 2019**

**Major Transformations**

All of us come to earth with a gift inside of us. Finding that gift and delivering it is our true work. In my life I made a Major Transformation and in the process I learned some lessons that I want to share with you. One lesson is learning to be authentically you.

Worship Leader: Laura Meeks

Worship Associate: Bryna Blum

# CALENDAR

**Sunday, September 29**

10:00 am-Worship Service

**Monday, September 30**

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Tuesday, October 1**

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal.

**Wednesday, October 2**

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

6:30 pm-Facilities

**Thursday, October 3**

3:00 pm-Garage Sale Prep

5:15 pm-Women's Night Out

7:00 pm-Bridge

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Friday, October 4**

8:00 am-Men's Breakfast

10:00 am-Garage Sale Set Up

**Saturday, October 5**

8:30 am-Garage Sale

**Sunday, October 6**

Food on the First

10 am-Worship Service

2:00 pm-DOS Choir

**Monday, October 7**

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Tuesday, October 8**

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

5:30 pm-Membership

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Wednesday, October 9**

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

**Thursday, October 10**

6:30 pm-Social Justice

6:00 pm-Free Concert in the Park PD

Amphitheater

7 pm-Bridge

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Friday, October 11**

7:00 pm-S2S2S Performance

**Saturday, October 12**

7:00 pm-S2S2S Performance

**Sunday, October 13**

10:00 am-Worship Service

**Monday, October 14**

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Tuesday, October 15**

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

5:00 pm-Board of Directors

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Wednesday, October 16**

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

**Thursday, October 17**

7:00 pm-Bridge

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Saturday, October 19**

UUCOD 60th Anniversary

9:30 am-Rev. Barbara Community Room

2:00 pm-Scrabble

**Sunday, October 20**

Share the Plate

10:00 am-Worship Service

11:30 am-New Member Orientation

2:00 pm-DOS Choir

**Monday, October 21**

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Tuesday, October 22**

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

4:30 pm-Worship Committee

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Wednesday, October 23**

**All Day- Parking Lot Sealing- Lot Closed**

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

**Thursday, October 24**

**All Day- Parking Lot Sealing- Lot Closed**

6:00 pm-Free Concert in the Park PD

7:00 pm-Bridge

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Friday, October 25**

**Morning- Parking Lot Sealing- Lot Closed**

**Sunday, October 27**

10 am-Worship Service

11:30 am-New Member Orientation (2nd Session)

11:30 am-Facilities Congregational Conclave

**Monday, October 28**

5:30 pm-Meditation

6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Tuesday, October 29**

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal

**Wednesday, October 30**

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

**Thursday, October 31**

7:00 pm-Bridge

7:30 pm-S2S2S Rehearsal.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

## **October 6, Food on the First**

As CVUSD Migrant Education food pantry is currently on hiatus due to staffing reorganization, we continue collecting food only for the Galilee Center and their overnight shelter. They distribute food to seniors and families in need in the Mecca area, as well as feeding migrant farm workers in season and asylum applicants in transit staying at the overnight shelter. Check all packages you donate to be sure they are not out of date. Bring to 10/6 Sunday service or leave ahead. Most needed: 1) dry goods: corn masa flour (Maseca, Torti-Masa, etc.) for tortillas, bagged rice or dried pinto beans, small pasta or dry spaghetti; 2) cooking oil: vegetable, canola, or corn oil; 3) canned proteins: chicken, tuna or jars of peanut butter; 4) canned fruits and vegetables: all fruits, vegetables, tomatoes, tomato sauce, pasta sauce. Thanks!



## **October 13, Socks on the Second for Well in the Desert**

Bring September 8 or leave ahead in the Well in the Desert brown bin in the UUCOD lobby. Bring new socks, darker colors very welcome. Well in the Desert Palm Springs distributes to local people living homeless. Your socks cushion footsteps during long treks on foot, provide a sense of comfort and dignity, and keep feet warm and dry. Due to limited space, socks only. For other items, please contact Well in the Desert or another charity and transport those items yourself. Thanks!

## **October 20, Share-the-Plate with RAICES**

This month we will share the plate with Coachella-based cultural arts program RAICES. Look for more information in next week's UUCOD weekly reminder.

## **Further deliveries of clothing to Galilee suspended**

During the hot summer, Leslie Gebhart and Vikki Porter took charge of driving to Galilee Center clothing and toiletries for asylees staying temporarily at the Our Lady of Guadalupe shelter. A thousand thanks to Leslie and Vikki for their work! We will now suspend further deliveries of such goods at this time until Social Justice committee meets in October to decide how to assist from this point onward.

## EVENTS



### **Saturday, October 5: Garage Sale**

**NEED GARAGE SALE ITEMS & HELP!**

Please drop off items on Thursday, Oct. 3 between 3-6:00 p.m. or Friday, Oct. 5 between noon - 5:00 p.m. Gently used ANYTHING will be welcomed. Pick up service is available for larger items. Contact Carol Lavoie at [mclavoie@aol.com](mailto:mclavoie@aol.com) to help price items on Friday or set up / sell / take down on

Saturday.

### **PHONE A FRIEND...**

and invite one (or two) to our garage sale next Saturday, Oct. 5 from 8:30-2:00 p.m. Featured items: new bicycles, vintage china, exercise equipment, books (and more books), CD's, designer clothing, shoes and handbags, antiques, artwork, household and craft items. Please help make this a success!

### **October 12, Second Saturday Stroll**

Join us for the October 12 Second Saturday Stroll. We'll beat the heat by heading up to the Pacific Crest Trail trailhead on Hwy 74. Be prepared to hike a couple of miles up the trail and then back down. We can then head to the Paradise Valley Cafe (a hiker favorite) for lunch.

Meet at the upper parking lot of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Visitors Center at the base of Hwy 74 at 7:30 to carpool up the hill.

### **October 18, On Race and Racism: Going to the Core**

Insight Community of the Desert would like to invite the members of UUCOD to this special 3 part series. It continues the journey of Waking Up White: increasing awareness of personal unconscious bias and sensitivity to racial issues. Facilitator Lauren Nile provides the safe, non-judgmental environment necessary to dialogue honestly about the issues of race and racism.

#### **When:**

Friday, October 18 at 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday, October 19 at 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday, October 26 at 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

**Cost:** \$75-95 sliding scale.

To find out more and register, go to: [desertinsight.org/event/going-to-the-core/](http://desertinsight.org/event/going-to-the-core/)

## STUNNINGLY BEAUTIFUL ARRANGEMENT



The new floral arrangement in the foyer was donated by Maxine Ziebarth in memory of her husband Judge Kenneth Ziebarth who passed away on September 20, 2017. Thank you, Maxine, for the beautiful floral arrangement.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Deposits for the Woman's Retreat on January 10-12, 2020 are due by October 1st.**

**Reminder: Scrip Orders due next Sunday October 6th. See Bill Smith or Mel Wilkinson to complete your orders.**

### **Parking Lot Closure**

Our parking lot will have a new look with seal coat and restriping. The entire parking lot will be closed for 2 full days (Wednesday 10/23 and Thursday 10/24) and a half day on Friday 10/25.

The Building will be open; however, access to the Building will involve walking on the sand from Via Vail to the walkway.

Please consider the access limits when making decisions regarding your group's meeting those nights; Cancel or reschedule if necessary.

**Please remember DO NOT DRIVE OR WALK ON THE ASPHALT IN THE PARKING LOT.**

Thank You!!

For Questions Contact: Jane Zaun or Rod Belshee

### **It's Good to have Friends!**

UUCOD has a lot of Friends and it's so good to have them. Friends are non-members who attend services and/or support the church in some manner. Many of our Friends serve on committees; they volunteer when help is needed; they make our music; they attend our events; they make donations; and some of them pledge every year. In fact, Friends represented nearly one out of five individuals who pledged in the current year and 17% of the total amount pledged. More than a third of the people listed in our Directory are Friends.

Most importantly, Friends enhance the quality of our lives through their fellowship, service and commitment to UUCOD. They are a vital component of our church life and we'd be a lesser community

without them! So members, let's reach out to our Friends and thank them for being part of our community. It is, indeed, good to have Friends!

### **Plate Collections for Sunday, September 22: \$234.00**

#### **Invitation to Youth to Sing**

Join the choir for Christmas Eve Service! Commit to ONE (1) rehearsal (Ages 10 and up) on December 18th 6:30-7:00 pm & Christmas Eve 4:00 pm-6:00 pm.  
Questions? Email Jeffrey Huard at [musicdirector@uucod.org](mailto:musicdirector@uucod.org)

#### **2020 DIRECTORY UPDATE**

We are preparing the annual Directory of Members and Friends for 2020. Please make a check mark in the directory at the Member Table on Sunday morning to show the information is correct.

#### **Script2Stage2Screen Announces 2019-2020 Season: Focus is on Families**

Rancho Mirage, Calif., Sept. 9, 2019 – Theatrical staged-reading group Script2Stage2Screen – which recently earned 25 nominations from Desert Theatre League -- announces the plays selected for this upcoming season:

- October 11 & 12, 2019 – “Battle of the Exes,” written and directed by Jason Hull of Palm Springs. A fast-paced comedy that contends truth is in the eyes of the beholder.
- Nov. 1 & 2, 2019 – “The Choice,” by Roger Wallker, Columbia, Mo. A drama not only about making a choice, but whose right it is to choose. Directed by Gina Bikales.
- Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2020 – “Taking Care of Mimi,” by Marilyn Barner Anselmi (Rocky Mount, N.C.). A drama/mystery about the workings of the human heart; families; and greed. Directed by Gina Bikales.
- March 6 & 7, 2020 – “Intermission,” by David Hanson, of Edgewater, N.J. A humorous love story about people who seek possibilities and happy endings. Directed by Chet Cole.
- April 3 & 4, 2020 – “I’m Not Rick Springfield,” by Vicki Verde, Kansas City, Mo. A bag of laughs driven by hero worship, mistaken identity and family dysfunction. Directed by Gina Bikales.
- May 1 & 2, 2020 – “A Night in Puglia,” by David Wolgin, Palm Springs. A love story for all ages and orientations. Sensual and sweet, set in Italy. Directed by Gina Bikales.
- June 5 & 6, 2020 – “Auntie,” by Marty Martin, El Paso. Who was Auntie Mame? Could it be Marion, a lovable kook with a heart of gold? Directed by Don Cilluffo.

All staged readings take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Rancho Mirage, 72425 Via Vail. Tickets are \$10.

“This season is all about families. How we create them, treat them, fight for them and sometimes do them ‘dirty,’” said Gina Bikales, artistic director. “We have chosen seven fine scripts to produce – from the lightest to the darkest of life’s scenarios. We hope our audiences will find them artistic, with truthful merit in each and every one.”

Script2Stage2Screen is an innovative performing arts organization for the development of original productions on the stage. Formed in 2010 by a small group of playwrights, S2S2S started as a vehicle to premiere original plays. Since then, it has developed into a diverse performing arts organization in the Coachella Valley with the mission of highlighting social justice, families, sexual equality, the dignity of humankind, and the joy and humor of life. [www.script2stage2screen.com](http://www.script2stage2screen.com)

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**Jason Hull Bio:** 2019 marks his 22nd year in theatre. He moved to the Coachella Valley in 2008, and is thrilled to have found a theatrical home with Script2Stage2Screen for nine consecutive seasons and grateful that the zany characters and warped plots that spring from his head continue to amuse and entertain audiences.

## **ANNUAL UUCOD AUCTION 2019!**

### **Saturday, November 9, at 5:30 PM**

#### **AUCTION NOTES**

~Donation forms available in lucite holder on table in foyer. Completed forms can be returned to the back of the same holder or given to Carol Lavoie.

~Donated items will be recorded on AUCTION BOARD in foyer as they come in.

~Consider picking up envelopes also on table containing donation forms for business - restaurants, hair salons, spas, etc. Envelopes contain form (with tax information) and a paragraph on who we are. Just have them complete and return!

~Carol Lavoie will be available after each service at the AUCTION TABLE to answer questions, help brainstorm the perfect donation, collect or help fill out forms and help find a place where you could volunteer prior or during the auction.

~Remember: Forms due by October 27.

## **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 October 15, 2019.

At the meeting of the UUCOD Board of Directors on September 17, 2019 the following matters were discussed and/or decided:

An Attitude of Gratitude Card was sent to Dave Carter.

The UUA website has a Leader Lab section specifically for Board Member Training. Jane shared concepts from the Leader Lab on Spiritual Grounding as Leaders: Having and following the Board covenant, Minister as a partner, lay leadership as a spiritual practice, self-care, and how we establish and maintain our culture and identity.

The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District inspected the UUCOD grounds for Fire Ants and determined there were none at this time. Periodic inspections and treatment if needed are available at no cost.

Moved to retain a consultant on an as needed basis to provide a variety of IT services.

Discussed the Pacific Western Region Leadership Development Experience.  
Discussed having a Facilities congregational conclave to discuss upcoming projects for this year.

Distributed to all Board members' policy binders and/or flash drives with current Board policies.

Distributed the book "The In-Between Church: Navigating Size Transitions in Congregations" to all Board members in preparation for the Board Retreat on 10/28/19.

## SAVE THE DATE

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

**Saturday, November 9: Annual Service Auction**

Contact: Carol Lavoie

**Friday, December 8: 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

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**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](mailto:admin@uucod.org) asking to reserve space. The newsletter needs to be on the website by 3 pm, Fridays.

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Visit our website

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