

November 2019



UUCOD Monthly Newsletter

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Tim Nguyen-Photographer

At The Heart of It

OH MY Goodness! It is November. That means PRIDE! Whether I will see you at the march on Sunday or you will see others at Church, each day invites us to show up and show off our values! Aren't we lucky to be alive right now!

Recently the Board and I worked through a full-day retreat process to assess and refresh the Developmental Goals UUCOD set two years ago and refined last year, so that we can stay focused and align our practices with those goals. It is a privilege to work with such folks and to be grateful for the hard work that preceded us. One of those goals is fostering personal connections within this congregation and offering programs that foster individual and congregational spiritual growth.

I have a primary responsibility for Adult Spiritual Growth. As part of that priority, I met with six facilitators two weeks ago and will meet again this week in preparation for the "kick-off" of the Chalice Circle program that begins Mid-November. The mission of Chalice

Circles is "*spiritual growth through personal connections*". If you have already signed up you will be notified about your group meeting times and dates very soon. Please know that we have tried to meet your primary requests. If you haven't yet signed on, and want to, there is still some room and a little time to get "with the program." Our first topic is "Belonging."

We know that many of you have personal friendships and check in with each other regularly. But not everyone is as well connected. The Pastoral Care Team wants to make caring outreach more manageable. It can be as simple and thoughtful as writing a card, baking a casserole or calling to check in regularly. It might be offering someone a needed ride to an appointment from time to time.

We are creating an outreach process that will allow volunteers to be part of a larger team, to respond "yes" or "no" to a need, as you are able. We hope you will consider making and or delivering a "casserole" from time to time, writing a card or even offering a ride to UUCOD or medical check up when it is needed. If you think you can volunteer for one or more options, please sign up in the foyer. Or visit the Pastoral Care Table on Committee Fair Sunday! Yes! Committee Fair Sunday is coming soon! Stay in touch and please, show up to signup.

We will still have pastoral Care visitors, who will have ministerial support and supervision. I am delighted to let you know that Rev. Dr. Don Stouder, who has served as a chaplain for more than three decades, is now our Affiliated Minister and in addition to preaching 4-6 Sundays a year, he will be supporting and offering supervision for our Lay Pastoral visiting program. We are blessed.

Life has its joys and challenges and we are called to live it as best we can, with integrity and spirit. That is the reason for communities such as ours. We are here inviting you to show up, serve, and grow your spirit by connecting to what nurtures your life and brings some health and wholeness into those you meet and the world.

Wasn't it just yesterday that the "Garage" sale was completed and now we are on to PRIDE November 3rd, and THE AUCTION November 9th. Be there! Thank you Mack, Carol and many, many others!

Bless everyone, no exception, including yourself.

SERVICES



November 3, 2019 **Unconscious Bias**

Worship Leader: Derek Moore
Worship Associate: Ray Deveaux

November 10, 2019 **Setting the Boat**

A few "rules" from a rowing coach that I had. They seem to me to make sense for congregational life. They might even make sense applied to your life. We will welcome our newest members and to celebrate and get to know them we will enjoy a pot luck lunch, after worship.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast
Worship Associate: Josette Pacino

November 17, 2019 **100,000 Welcomes**

At a retreat center I attend there is a sign that reads: *Treat everyone who walks into your office, into this place as the holy one.* This is a spiritual practice and a practice for sustaining the human spirit.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast & Choir
Worship Associate: Betty Bender

November 24, 2019 **Food: Eating as if the World Matters**

I hope this will be a sweet and savory sermon, not shaming or guilt inducing. It is meant to whet your appetite for wholeness, as we head into holidays and holy days.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast
Worship Associate: Joni Paddock

CALENDAR

Friday, November 1

8:00 am-Men's Breakfast
7:30 pm-S2S2S Performance

Saturday, November 2

7:30 pm-S2S2S Performance

Sunday, November 3

Food on the First
10:00 am-Worship Service
10:00 am-Pride Parade

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Monday, November 4

5:30 pm-Meditation
6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, November 5

8:30 am-Weight Watchers
11:30 am-Mid Valley Interfaith
2:30 pm-Chalice Circle Facilitators
4:00 pm-Safety Committee

Wednesday, November 6

6:30 pm-Facilities

Thursday, November 7

5:15 pm-Women's Night Out
6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir
7:00 pm-Bridge

Thursday, November 14

6:30 pm-Social Justice
7:00 pm-Bridge

Sunday, November 17

Share the Plate
10:00 am-Worship Service
11:30 am-Committee Fair
2:00 pm-DOS Choir

Monday, November 18

5:30 pm-Meditation
6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, November 19

8:30 am-Weight Watchers
5:00 pm-Board of Directors

Wednesday, November 20

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

Thursday, November 21

7:00 pm-Bridge

Friday, November 22

1:30 pm-Afternoon Book Club

Sunday, November 24

10:00 am-Worship Service

Monday, November 25

Saturday, November 9
9:00 am-2nd Saturday Stroll
5:30 pm-UUCOD Service Auction

Sunday, November 10
Socks on the Second
New Member Induction
10:00 am-Worship Service
11:30 am-New Member Potluck

Monday, November 11
5:30 pm-Meditation
6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, November 12
8:30 am-Weight Watchers
5:30 pm-Membership Committee

Wednesday, November 13
6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

5:30 pm-Meditation
6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, November 26
8:30 am-Weight Watchers
4:30 pm-Worship Committee

Wednesday, November 27
6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

Thursday, November 28
Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, December 1
10:00 am-Worship Service
2:00 pm-DOS Choir

Monday, December 2
5:30 pm-Meditation
6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

SOCIAL JUSTICE

November 3, Food on the First

Our Food on the First collection benefits Galilee Center in the eastern Coachella Valley 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. Bring to Nov. 3 Sunday service. Check all packages you donate to be sure they are not out of date. 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!



November 10, Socks on the Second for Well in the Desert

Bring November 10 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!

November 17, Share-the-Plate for Coachella's "Hidden Harvest"

Hidden Harvest's mission is twofold. 1) To provide work, paying farm workers \$12.50/hr. to reenter and re-pick fields before they are plowed under. (Workers can take food for their own family) 2) To glean from the picked fields the produce that was left behind as not saleable, and provide the rescued fresh, locally-grown food from both fields and packing houses to feed poor and hungry in the Coachella Valley.

Additionally, Hidden Harvest serves and educates our community through various programs. Volunteers pack produce, give out foods at various senior citizen/school sites and work the program jobs. Thus, every dollar donated to Hidden Harvest by the general public or through foundation grants goes directly toward their services. Please bring your checkbooks November 17 and be prepared to give generously for Hidden Harvest.

The Social Justice Committee Needs YOU!!

Thank you for all you have done in this past year for Social Justice at UUCOD. Regardless of whether it's showing up for a parade, rally, or giving food, socks, or money for Share the Plate, you repeatedly have given your time & your resources. Thank you!

Right now we have two extremely important opportunities for you to make a difference for those in need in the Coachella Valley.

1. Coordinate SafeHouse of the Desert's Holiday Drive

In past years, this highly successful drive has brought greatly needed & much-appreciated items to the residents of SafeHouse of the Desert & Harrison House. We are without a coordinator for this year so we need you to make it happen. This project is completely organized from start to finish. It's simply a matter of implementing the written process & timeline. Fran Hoag, who's coordinated the project for the past two years, as well as myself, will be happy to mentor you.

2. Help Plan the UUCOD Social Justice Awards

A steering committee has been formed to explore the idea of UUCOD honoring the individuals & groups in the Coachella Valley who are working on the front lines of creating meaningful change for those in need. With people moving away from UUCOD, there are now only two people on the steering committee. We need a minimum of three more volunteers to help bring this project into reality. Our hope is to do this on or around December 10th, Human Rights Day.

Timeframe: mid-November, 2019 - December 10, 2020

Please join us in working on one or both of these projects. I hate to say it, but if no one volunteers, these projects will not be done & many who have come to rely on our beloved community's generosity will go without. For more information, give Denise Janssen Eager a call.

EVENTS



November 1st & 2nd, Script2Stage2Screen Announces 2019-2020 Season; Focus is on Families

- Nov. 1 & 2, 2019 – “The Choice,” by Roger Walker, Columbia, Mo. A drama not only about making a choice, but whose right it is to choose. Directed by Gina Bikales.

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

November 3rd, SCRIP Sunday:

November 3rd is the first Sunday of the month. What does that mean? It's SCRIP order day. Bring your check & your order & find Sheryl Eaton at the SCRIP table. This is a great way to support UUCOD. Buy gift cards (SCRIP) for your own use, or for gifts & we get a percentage to help with the good works of UUCOD.

November 3, Palm Springs Pride Parade:

Pride Parade begins at 10:00 am in Downtown Palm Springs. Come and celebrate millions of moments of pride.

November 7, Women's Night Out:

WNO will be at Date Palm CC, at AJ's on the Green at 5 pm. Reservations should be made with Sheryl Eaton (muffingolf@gmail.com). Any questions, please call Joni Paddock. Cell is 508-954-9108.

November 17, Committee Fair:

Come explore what various committees and groups are doing at and planning for the church. It's a perfect chance to connect link your interests with those of like minded people. Sunday, November 17 on the patio, after service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plate Collections for Sunday, October 27: \$273.00

UUCOD Safety Committee needs you!

Since it was formed early last year, the UUCOD Safety Committee has worked hard to make sure our community and our facilities are safe from threats seen and unseen.

Most of that work has been done by Rod Belshee and his team, working to upgrade our emergency alarm systems, lighting, safety equipment and overall campus safety. Jerry L'Hommedieu has drafted an Emergency Response Policy for the board's review. And the work continues. And team members are signing up for CERT training from local agencies.

But we need more volunteers from the congregation to ensure we are prepared for all types of emergencies, year-round. We hope to build a team that is prepared to help care for our community. Training will be a vital part of our plan as well as general information for all. If you are interested in joining the effort, please contact board members Vikki Porter, Jerry L'Hommedieu, Rod Belshee, Jane Zaun, and Carol Lavoie. The committee's next meeting is 4 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 5, in the Community Room.

Annual Thanksgiving Potluck:

Joni & Bill will be hosting their annual Potluck Dinner for members and friends who don't have family nearby to share the holiday with. We will be having a sign up sheet on the round table in the foyer as we get closer. One caveat...we are in the midst of a major remodel to our home and it looks like it will be finished by the holiday, so the tentative plan is to have it here at our home. As a fallback, if we find it is "not ready for prime time" a week or so before Thanksgiving, we will let everyone know that the venue has changed and it will be at the church. If it's at church, we will need volunteers to help with set up and clean up. Bill & I will provide the turkeys and the stuffing and everyone who comes will sign up for a

favorite Thanksgiving side dish, salad or dessert. It's been a wonderful gathering of 26-28 people the last few years and we'd love to continue this tradition. More to come soon!! Let the holiday season begin!

Committee Fair:

Join us after service on November 17th at our Committee Fair. Find out about many in which you can help build our beloved community.

Interim Statements are Available for Pickup:

Beginning Sunday, October 20th, interim statements will be available for pick up prior to and following services. See Jerry L'Hommedieu in the lobby for your statement. Please review your statements and notify our Treasurer at treasurer@uucod.org with any questions or changes that need to be made prior to issuing year end statements.

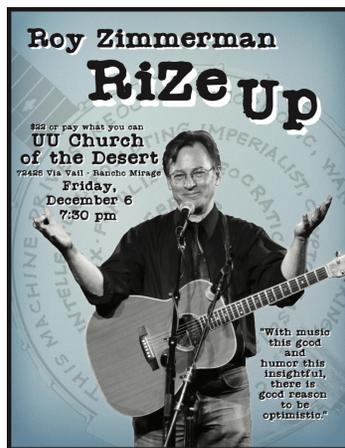
Chalice Circle: Small groups begin meeting in early November. SIGN UP NOW!

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

ROY ZIMMERMAN: RiZe Up

Ready for some humor!! Do Not Miss Roy Zimmerman's concert Friday evening December 6th in our Sanctuary. Roy has played at UUCOD in years past; he is always entertaining. Plan for an enjoyable evening of original songs and plenty of laughter.



ROY ZIMMERMAN: RiZe Up

Roy Zimmerman's signature blend of heart and hilarity has never been more necessary. *RiZe Up* is ninety minutes of Roy Zimmerman's original songs, a funny and forceful affirmation of Peace and Social Justice. It's laughter and encouragement for progressive-minded people who need a lot of both. Roy's songs have been heard on HBO and Showtime, and his videos have garnered tens of millions of views. He has recorded for Warner/Reprise Records. He's shared stages with Bill Maher, Ellen DeGeneres, Holly Near, Robin Williams, Arlo Guthrie, John Oliver, Kate Clinton and George Carlin, and tours the country constantly with his wife and co-writer Melanie Harby.

Video links:

"Thoughts and Prayers" -

<https://www.facebook.com/39171898761/videos/10155446314448762/>

"Defenders of Marriage" - <https://www.facebook.com/39171898761/videos/10155525002063762/>

"COVFEFE - "Grounds for Impeachment" -

<https://www.facebook.com/39171898761/videos/323531971881214/>

"Religious Freedom" - <https://www.facebook.com/39171898761/videos/10155198379948762/>

"My Vote, My Voice, My Right" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-X-uBlqeVM>

ANNUAL UUCOD AUCTION 2019!

AUCTION NEWS

Mad Hatter Tea Party, Lasagna Dinner for 30, Vegan Cooking Class, Tour of the East Valley, 'Hike and Bite", Gourmet Dinner for 10, Gourmet Tamale Dinner, Pies, Cakes, Baskets, Gift Certificates (100+ items) all waiting for bids at our annual auction next Saturday, Nov. 9 at 5:30. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year. Funds raised help pay for the lighting, air conditioning, repaving of parking lot, irrigation-everything that makes this such a special place.

Tickets can be purchased at the Auction Table after service on Sunday or through the Constant Contact email you received. Tickets are \$15 each or \$20 each at the door. Contact Mel Wilkinson at mel.wilkinson@yahoo.com with questions or reservations.

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 November 19, 2019.

At the meeting of the UUCOD Board of Directors on October 15, 2019 the following matters were discussed and/or decided:

Attitude of Gratitude cards were sent to Mack Rogers, Tim Hill, and Maxine Ziebarth
Moved to send two members to Pacific Western Leadership Experience
Moved to approve funds supporting members willing to host Holiday Dinners for congregants
Moved to approved Social Justice recommendation (RAICES) for October Share the Plate
Received Facilities update on flooring and parking lot sealing and striping
Received results of garage sale and annual service auction update
Discussed Pride Parade and UUCOD collaboration with Desert Outreach Synagogue and Insight
Community of the Desert
Planned for Board Retreat on October 28, 2019

SAVE THE DATE

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

Friday: December 6 at 7 pm: 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

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