

December 6, 2019



## UUCOD Weekly Reminder

### SERVICES

#### **December 8, 2019**

##### **Gifts**

I decided, given the current times in our world, when conflicts and arguments are swirling in halls of government that we might benefit from the spiritual reminder that it is also a seasonal time of growing darkness, inviting us into contemplation and appreciation as we meet each new day. *Yesterday is past, tomorrow is not yet here, but today is a gift, that is why they call it the present!* (Calvin and Hobbs)

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast  
Worship Associate: Peter Mathews

#### **December 15, 2019**

##### **Look to the Lights: Look to the Stars**

As the world grows dark in the northern hemisphere, human beings tell stories to warm their hearts and guide them through the dark nights ahead. Our choir will sing in the season. We will light the Christmas tree, of pagan heritage, and place our stars of hope and strength on its branches. It is Share-the-Plate Sunday and Safe House Operations.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast  
Worship Associate: Denise Janssen Eager

#### **December 22, 2019**

##### **The Still Point: Reflections on Solstice and the Birth of Light**

Traditional, earth-centered spirituality has recognized and celebrated the times of equinox and solstice since before recorded history. The sacred resides in these places of stillness, of balance, of change. Out of stillness, (what is called in Buddhist teachings "emptiness"), comes all things.

Let's explore the sacredness of the pause, this space where inhale and exhale meet, and how befriending and remembering this stillness can support us in our daily lives.

Worship Leader: Ian Challis  
Worship Associate: Peter Mathews

#### **December 24, 2019**

##### **Candle Light Christmas Eve Service with Choir and Carols**

Come and bring the family for our Christmas Eve Service. Light Candles, share a message and sing in the season of peace and hope, again.

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

#### **December 29, 2019**

##### **There If You Need Me**

The sermon title is taken, of course, from UU Minister Kate Braestrup's best-selling memoir about her journey as a chaplain for Maine Game Wardens. But what exactly is a community minister/chaplain in the UU tradition? Rev. Don will help us understand the role, and why it is such an important, if misunderstood, ministry in our faith."

Worship Leader: Rev. Don Stouder  
Worship Associate: Bryna Blum

# CALENDAR

## Friday, December 6

8:00 am-Men's Breakfast  
7:30 pm-RiZe Up Concert

## Saturday, December 7

9:00 am-Church Council

## Sunday, December 8

Socks on the Second  
10:00 am-Worship Service  
11:30 am-New Membership Discussion  
12:00 pm-Chalice Circles

## Monday, December 9

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

## Tuesday, December 10

8:30 am-Weight Watchers  
5:30 pm-Membership Committee

## Wednesday, December 11

9:00 am-Safety Committee  
6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

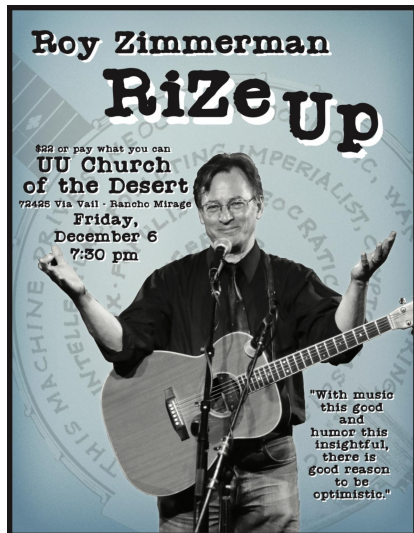
## Thursday, December 12

10:00 am-Stewardship Committee  
6:30 pm-Social Justice Committee  
7:00 pm-Bridge  
7:00 pm-Jarabe Mexicano (Rancho Mirage Amphitheater)

# EVENTS

## December 6th, ROY ZIMMERMAN: RiZe Up

Ready for some humor!! Do Not Miss Roy Zimmerman's concert tonight at 6:30 PM 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'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>

## December 8, New Member Discussion Group:

The Stewardship Committee welcomes all members who joined in 2019 to participate in a discussion to answer questions you might have about our church community and how it functions.

Sunday, December 8 at 11:20.

**December 12, Social BUterfly Event:**

Sign up for FREE Jarabe Mexicano concert (7:00 pm at the Rancho Mirage Amphitheater) on new sign up wall between doors to sanctuary.

**December 14, Second Saturday Stroll:**

Second Saturday Stroll will be at the Pushwalla Palms Loop trail, a 4.5 mile hike in the Coachella Valley Preserve. RSVP to let us know you are coming. We will meet at 8:30 am at the trailhead on Thousand Palms Canyon Road. Click on the link below to register!

[Click Here to RSVP!](#)

**December 15, UUCOD Women's Retreat:**

Reminder for Women Retreaters! There will be a short meeting at 11:30 .a.m. after service December 15. The meeting will provide more information on the retreat activities and answer any questions participants may have. If you can't make the meeting, we'll email relevant information to you. Also remember that the final registration payment is due by December 15.

Please complete your payment to our administrator, Andrea. You can mail a check to our P.O. Box 2853 Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, drop it off in Treasurer's mailbox or drop it off in collection plate on Sunday. ***Please make sure to write in the Memo section "Women's Retreat"***

**December 18, 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)

**December 20, Afternoon Book Group:**

The afternoon book group will meet at Linda Davis-Brede's at 1:30 pm. The book to be discussed is "On Fire" by Naomi Klein. Books re both sides of the Climate Change issue can/or also be read.

**December 25, Holiday dinner:**

Holiday dinner signup is on south wall between sanctuary doors. Limited to 30 members & friends of uucod.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Plate Collections for Sunday, December 1: \$436.00**

**Donate Toys to the Children at Peter Pendleton Elementary School and Help Them Have A Joyful Holiday!!**

There are just 2 more opportunities to drop off your toys in the Holiday Toy Box at UUCOD for the children at Peter Pendleton Elementary School in Coachella:

Friday 12/6 at Roy Zimmerman's RIZe Up Concert  Sunday, 12/8 before or after the service

Peter Pendleton has 540 students in Kindergarten - Fifth Grades, all of whom are living at or below the poverty line & receiving free/reduced meals. Please donate new, unwrapped toys for children, ages 6-11 & costing \$10-15. Don't forget to take any price tags off.

**Wish List**

- soccer balls
- action figures
- Barbie Dolls
- crafts
- Hot Wheel Cars
- board games
- footballs
- playground balls
- card games

The Holiday Elves will be delivering the toys on Monday, 12/9 so don't delay! Any questions, call Denise Janssen Eager.

**December 8, SafeHouse/Harrison House Patio Giving Table:**

The SafeHouse of the Desert/Harrison House Holiday Gift Drive is in full swing! Thanks to everyone who took a "tag" the last three Sundays, identifying a gift or gifts you will be donating for this project. We will have more tags on a tree on December 8, so please stop by and see what you might do to brighten Christmas for one of the youth living at SafeHouse or Harrison House.

There are 14 young adults, ages 18 to 22 years old, currently living at SafeHouse's Harrison House. These young people benefit from having a safe place to live during the transition to more permanent

living arrangements, and also receive support and counseling from the staff there. Their wishes often include supplies for apartment living.

SafeHouse of the Desert also operates an emergency shelter for youth, ages 11 to 17, who need housing as they await a more long-term placement. Some are former victims of human trafficking; others will be moving to a different foster home. These children receive therapy and support from social service agencies. Craft supplies, board games, puzzles, and coloring materials are favorite gifts for these children. Come to the table to sign up to give and choose a tag. Every donation is appreciated.

**December 8, Socks on the Second for Homeless persons:**

Bring December 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!

**December 15, Share-the-Plate with SafeHouse operations:**

This month we will share the plate with SafeHouse for their operating fund, which includes their new pilot emergency shelter for young adults, including counseling, skill-building, transition to apartments with wrap-around services for six months, in addition to their other programs, including Harrison House. Please bring your checkbooks, make payable to UUCOD, and give generously so our treasurer can send the share as a group check. This collection is separate from the gift drive for SafeHouse and Harrison House residents, which is tabling Sundays on the patio.

**UUCOD votes to become carbon neutral:**

With nearly half the membership voting, UUCOD committed overwhelmingly to becoming carbon-net-neutral by installing a rooftop solar system. This is an amazing step forward in a congregation with a strong history of connection to the earth as Green Sanctuary congregation.

**Greetings to you who may have space available for a couple who could trade housing for a donation to the UUCOD**

*Professional couple with a small 35 pound rescue dog needs a place to call home for the month of March 2020. They've sold their home in Lake La Quinta and new home in Arizona is not available until April 1st...*

*If you have a studio or home available for a short 30 day term, please let us know. Or, if you are traveling anytime in the month of February or March, we would love to "house-sit" your home and/or animals for you. Huge animal lovers! Thanks for any ideas you may have!*

Leslie g 760-218-8865

## SAVE THE DATE

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

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

Contact: Vikki Porter

**Friday, January 24: Suzanne Sheridan Concert (<https://suzannesherdanmusic.com/>)**

Contact: Fran Hoag - Ticket sales coming soon!

**Saturday, February 15: Celebrate Us! Variety Show:**

The "Celebrate Us Variety Show," set for Saturday, February 15th, 2020 is looking for UU Family talents that would enjoy performing for an evening of fun and frivolity. If interested, please notify Peter Mathews at the email address or phone number below. Deadline for submission of acts is Noon Sunday, January 12th. ([peter.mathews56@gmail.com](mailto:peter.mathews56@gmail.com)) or (203-240-4676)

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**Newsletter Deadlines: Special deadline for the week of Thanksgiving will be Monday afternoon.**

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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