

December 13, 2019



UUCOD Weekly Reminder

SERVICES

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

Saturday, December 14

9:00 am-2nd Saturday Stroll
2:00 pm-Scrabble

Sunday, December 15

Share the Plate
10:00 am-Worship Service

11:30 am-Women's Retreat Gathering
11:30 am-SafeHouse/Harrison House Gift Wrapping Party

Monday, December 16

1:00 pm-Chalice Circles
5:30 pm-Meditation
6:30 pm-Food Addicts in Recovery

Tuesday, December 17

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

Wednesday, December 18

3:00 pm-Chalice Circles
6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir

Thursday, December 19

12:00 pm-Super Senior Lunch with Rev. Barbara
7:00 pm-Bridge

EVENTS

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. They 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 am. 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 this Sunday*.

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 15, Gift Wrapping for SafeHouse of the Desert Holiday Drive:

While listening to the information about the Women's Retreat (see above), you will also have the opportunity to wrap the gifts you've brought in for the SafeHouse/Harrison House Holiday Drive. Don't forget to bring wrapping paper, bows and tape. It will be fun!! For more information, contact Denise Janssen Eager

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

December 19, Super Senior Bring Your Own Lunch with Rev. Barbara:

Join Rev. Barbara on Thursday, December 19 from 12:00-1:30 pm. Topic: Holidays/Holy Days? What do you celebrate at this time of year? This is intended for folks 80+, but we don't "ID" you.

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 21, Winter Solstice Celebration

Join us for Winter Solstice Celebration! Saturday, Dec. 21, 4:00-5:00 pm we'll have our Second Annual Winter Solstice ceremony. This is a casual gathering on the UUCOD Peace Labyrinth to recognize the longest day of the year and to welcome the Sun. This is an ancient tradition of all faiths and cultures. Bring flashlights and probably warm jackets. We will honor the earth and the cycles of seasons. A short ceremony without denominations but with intention. Please bring a can of food to share for Food on the First too. Hot apple cider and ginger snap cookies served to this who bring their own mug too!

December 25, Annual Holiday dinner:

We have room for a few more dinner guests for the annual Holiday Dinner. Sign up & please indicate the dish you will be bringing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE! Dylan & Joni & Leonard & Me: Suzanne Sheridan in Concert!

Save the date and get your tickets now! Friday, Jan. 24, 2020 from 7:00-9:00 pm. Tickets are \$25. Suzanne Sheridan, well-known and favorite singer-songwriters among East Coast UUs, makes a rare appearance at UUCOD! She's bringing the songs of her favorite social commentary music idols: Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Leonard Cohen as well as her original songs. This is both a fundraiser for UUCOD and a moment of solidarity in a time of division and injustice.

Plate Collections for Sunday, December 8: \$326.00

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

This month we will share the plate with SafeHouse for their operating fund, which includes services provided to their SafeHouse and Harrison House participants. 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 was 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:

Thursday, January 9: Social BUUterfly : Chef's Table (2 -3pm).

Reservations for this FREE event is a MUST!

Contact: Sheryl Eaton

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

Contact: Vikki Porter

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

Contact: Fran Hoag

Sunday, February 2: Annual Chili Cookoff and Cornbread Bakeoff

Contact: Barbara Storms

Saturday, February 15, 2020: 'Celebrate Us!' Variety Show (Free admission)

Contact: Peter Mathews

February 2020 (4 Dates to be set): Mono-print classes.

Offered by a UUCOD member you can learn a new skill and explore your talents.

Contact: Sheryl Eaton

Newsletter Deadlines: Special deadline for December 20 weekly newsletter will be Wednesday December 18. The deadline for the January monthly newsletter is December 20.

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.

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