

March 6, 2020



UUCOD Weekly Reminder

SERVICES

March 8, 2020

What If The Hokey-Pokey Really Is What It's All About?

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast
Worship Associate: Bob Rancourt

March 15, 2020

The Way We Really Are; The Way We Never Were; Family Life Then, Now and Now What?

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast
Worship Associate: Ray Deveaux

March 22, 2020

It's Spring: Honoring Our Sacred Grounds

The choir will be singing.
Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast
Worship Associate: Josette Pacino

March 29, 2020

Self-Care in Today's World

Worship Leader: Jeralyn Brossfield, MD
Worship Associate: Bryna Blum

CALENDAR

Friday, March 6

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

Saturday, March 7

7:00 pm-UU Social BUUterflies Concert at Rancho Mirage Amphitheater
7:30 pm-S2S2S Performance

Sunday, March 8

Socks on the Second
New Member Induction
10:00 am-Worship Service
11:30 am-New Member Potluck
11:30 am-Finance Committee

Monday, March 9

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

Tuesday, March 10

8:30 am-Weight Watchers

2:30 pm-CC Facilitators
5:30 pm-Membership

Wednesday, March 11

6:30 pm-UUCOD Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 12

6:30 pm-Social Justice Committee

7:00 pm-Bridge

EVENTS

March 8, New Member Induction Ceremony

We will have our new member induction ceremony during the Worship Service on Sunday March 8, 2020. Following the service at 11:30 AM, we will have a new member potluck. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to join in community and meet all of our new members! So sign up on the form in the foyer, bring a potluck dish and join in the fun.

March 8, UUCOD Sock Challenge!

We're challenging UUCOD to donate 125 pairs (or more!) of socks on Socks on the Second Sunday, March 8. Though weather is warming, socks are still really needed and wanted! UUCOD's Socks on the Second collection totals have been lower recently. Please know that every time our volunteers deliver the socks you donate--to Well in the Desert Palm Springs for local persons living homeless--they are greeted with gratitude and told "We were really low on socks--thank you!" So, once again, we are asking our generous community to give more. Let's "Knock their Socks Off!" on March 8 with so many socks from UUCOD!

March 12, Forum on Environmental Justice in the Coachella Valley at 6:30-8:00 PM

The Social Justice Committee invites you to a Forum on Environmental Justice in the Coachella Valley. We will be in the UUCOD Community Room. Our UU principles call us to examine our place in this interconnected web of life in our desert home. Environmental, social and economic disparities exist between life as experienced by residents of the eastern Coachella Valley and that experienced by residents of the western parts of the valley. In this forum, we will examine those disparities and create relationships with communities directly impacted by environmental injustice.

Advocates for the communities in the eastern Coachella Valley will address issues such as the effects of the shrinking Salton Sea on the North Shore communities and lack of access to affordable housing, clean water and safe wastewater systems in the Oasis Mobile Home Park. Join us as we seek ways that we can walk beside and be allies of eastern Coachella Valley communities, acting in solidarity to support their efforts to bring positive change to the east valley region.

March 14, Second Saturday Stroll: Art Smith Trail 8:30 AM

Location: Art Smith Trailhead, on Hwy 74, across the road from the Santa Rosa Mountains Visitor Center. Take Hwy 74 south out of Palm Desert until you reach the Visitor Center on the left. The Art Smith trailhead and parking is across the road on the right side.

Description: This is a moderately strenuous hike with an elevation gain of approximately 1,000 feet, and a total round trip distance of 4 miles. We will hike to the first palm oasis, with an option of going to a second palm oasis if the group feels up to the challenge.

Most of the uphill climb occurs in the first 1.5 miles, with some level stretches as we progress to the palm oasis. There is an array of plant life, including barrel cacti and wildflowers. There are also panoramic views of the valley and interesting rock formations.

[Click Here to Register for Second Saturday Stroll](#)

March 15, Share the Plate Recipient is TODEC Legal Center

TODEC stands for Training Occupational Development Educating Communities. If you think their name is big, their mission is even bigger! Since 1984, they've been serving disenfranchised migrant communities from Palm Springs to Blythe, empowering them to become economically, socially, educationally, and civically self-sufficient while enhancing individual self-esteem and community health.

They provide limited/non-English speaking immigrants and migrant workers with:

- Opportunities to learn English
- Immigration and naturalization legal services
- Information to understand the political and economic landscape
- Resources so they can actively participate and integrate in the American communities in which they reside.

At our March 15 Sunday Service, please bring your checkbooks, make checks payable to UUCOD and

give generously. Thank you.

March 31, Join Us For A Celebration Of Cesar Chavez:

Palm Springs Pride and other organizations are sponsoring a breakfast to honor the life and work of Cesar Chavez.

- “Cesar E Chavez is a leader who rose up to become a symbol of hope and a true American hero. Chavez became the voice for the voiceless when no one could. Chavez, the legendary farmworker advocate, and social justice defender fought for justice and representation during his career as an organizer in California from the 1950s onward.”
- “With the help of labor organizers like Delores Huerta and Larry Itliong, they founded the United Farm Workers (UFW) union to fight years of low wages and inhumane working conditions. Through Cesar’s diligent leadership, the UFW was able to acquire higher wages and improved working conditions along with bringing hope to their community.”
- “This recognition is meaningful for the community and for all in the labor movement. It recognizes Cesar E. Chavez and it reaffirms our commitment in the City of Palm Springs to fight for justice, fair wages, better working conditions, dignity and respect for all.”

Location: Palm Springs Leisure Center Pavilion, 401 S Pavilion Way, Palm Springs, CA, 92262

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Sign-Up Sheet in the Foyer. Contact Jane Zaun for questions.

Deadline for reservations is March 15, 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plate Collections for Sunday, March 1: \$437.00

UUCOD Men’s Breakfast

A group of men from our congregation meet the first Friday of each month at Sherman’s Deli on Country Club Drive in Palm Desert at 8:00 AM. Please join us for breakfast and fellowship. Contact: Rob DuWors 310/429-6549 or rduwors@gmail.com.

News from the Care Team:

Linda Savard and Larry Rogers are on duty for the Care Team for the months of March and April. Anyone in need of support, please feel free to reach out to Linda Savard (562) 505-7665 or Larry Rogers (918) 805-1085. If they can’t be reached, team chair is Bryna Blum (760) 485 9289.

We send a special embrace to Barb K. at this time with gratitude for her presence among us. ♥
Leslie G. and the entire UUCOD community.

Hospitality:

Volunteers are still needed in the kitchen before and after service. See Margaret Manson and Sandy Sladen to help out.

Pacific Western Region of UUA is presenting a Webinar on preparation for response to Coronavirus. Members of your board will be participating in the Webinar and will communicate recommendations to the congregation.

Butterfly Project:

UUCOD is once again painting Butterflies for the Butterfly Project. We will be painting them in the Community Room on the first Sunday of each month, beginning at 11:30 AM and continuing until we are finished for the day. You can paint half a butterfly, or as many as you wish.

The Butterfly Project is a call to action through education, the arts and memorial making. It uses the lessons of the Holocaust to educate about the dangers of hatred and bigotry and cultivates empathy and social responsibility. Participants paint ceramic butterflies that are permanently displayed as symbols of resilience and hope, with the goal of creating 1.5 million butterflies around the world—one for each child who perished in the Holocaust, and honoring the survivors.

UUCOD is the first Church to participate in this project. For further information, please contact Kevin Brandt at 760-625-5880.

What are the Sacred Grounds?

Some months ago and with the encouragement of Reverend Barbara, a passionate group of UUCOD’ers got together to dream about how we could improve the ecological health of the sacred grounds upon which we worship and put into practice our 7th Principle. Some of the dreams that were envisioned include:

- Habitat spaces using indigenous or desert-appropriate plants that provide visual welcome and a sense of peace.

- Contemplation spaces for meditation, reflection, and remembrance of people and pets, connected by paths and benches that lay lightly and rightly upon the land.
- Meditation grove on the northwest to provide welcome, quiet, and shade.
- Ceremonial spaces.
- Green wall and walk to shelter the sanctuary's west wall.
- Water features to nurture and sustain bodies and souls.
- Spaces for the creation and celebration of art in harmony with nature.
- Night- and habitat-appropriate lighting.
- Propagation and habitat/indigenous plant usage space.

Rod Belshee summarized the rich harvest of ideas in this elegant "word cloud."



Using this collaboration as a framework, we began our preliminary efforts which will find further blossoming in the March 22 celebration of our 7th Principle during services.

What has been done so far?

Lots! In true UU fashion, our fellowship of friends have pitched in, pulled out, pruned and played. Here is a snapshot of completed efforts and a brief teaser of things to come! Read Diana Leslie's first-hand account of the Love the Land event, a.k.a. the all-congregation weed pull. Hail to all of the halo hoe heroes who showed up!



What's next?

On March 22, our congregation get to be pollinators! The Sacred Grounds team will have conceptual illustrations and information for our first two projects - the plaza in front of our sanctuary and the patio to the north of the community room - available for review at the coffee hour. We are initially focusing on efforts that can be easily accomplished with available resources and that will immediately enhance the appearance and usefulness of our sanctuary and benefit the existing ecosystem surrounding the building. We want your ideas, your passion, and your enthusiasm as you move from table to table. As our website states, let us bloom where we are planted.

In community,
The Sacred Grounds Team

SAVE THE DATE

May 7th, Harvey Milk Breakfast, Palm Springs Convention Center

UUCOD is sponsoring a table of 10. See Jane Zaun for details.

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 3:00 pm, Fridays.

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