

April 10, 2020



UUCOD Weekly Reminder

SERVICES

[Click Here to Join Our Worship Services at 10:00 AM](#)

April 12, 2020

Passover and Easter Resurrections

Whether it is the story of Passover or Easter, what are the perennial lessons for our time in the midst of this Pandemic.

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

April 19, 2020

Being There For Ourselves

It could be argued that the one person who is most challenging to support and befriend is often ourselves. Do you remember a time in life when you were not often there for yourself? And a time when you were? Was self-rejection a common experience for you in the past? Are you, more often than not, there for yourself today? Please join our April 19th Sunday service and consider the value of marriage, a commitment to union, first and foremost, with the self.

Worship Leader: Peter Mathews
Worship Associate: Glenn Yamaguchi

April 26, 2020

We Need Another

We will celebrate the power of community with our annual volunteer Appreciation Sunday and Flower Communion. What is a communion if we are not together in person?

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 12

Socks on the Second
10:00 am-Worship Service-**Live Streaming**
11:30 am-Finance Committee-**ZOOM Meeting**

Tuesday, April 14

5:00 pm-Membership Committee-**ZOOM Meeting**

Thursday, April 16

12:00 pm-Loving Kindness Meditation-**ZOOM Meeting**

Friday, April 17

11:00 am-Coffee and Conversation-**ZOOM Meeting**

Saturday, April 18

5:00 pm-Happy Hour-**ZOOM Meeting**

Shelter in Place Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Loving Kindness Meditation

***Thursdays in April and May
@ 12 - 12:30 pm***

***Weekly Online, Drop in
hosted by Reverend Barbara***

Loving Kindness meditation focuses on sending positive energy towards yourself and others. In these times when we are sheltering in place, it can increase positive emotions and feelings of social connection.

Coffee and Conversation A Reading and Get Together

***Fridays in April and May
@ 11 am - 12 pm***

***Weekly Online Gathering
hosted by Peter Mathews***

Please join Peter every Friday for a reading and get together. It is an interesting time we find ourselves in. We'd love to hear what's coming up for you, and maybe share a solution or two.

We look forward to connecting with you online.

Social BUUterflies-Happy Hour

***Saturdays in April and May
@ 5 pm - 6 pm***

***Weekly Online Gathering
hosted by Sheryl Eaton***

We look forward to connecting with you online.

THE CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING...

The church is not a place; it is a people.

The church is not only a steeple above the treeline, streets, and cars. Rather, it is a people proclaiming to the world that we are here for the work of healing and of justice.

The church is not walls built stone upon stone,



held together by mortar but rather person, linked with person, linked with person: all ages and genders and abilities—a community built on the foundation of reason, faith, and love.

The church is not just a set of doors open on Sunday morning, but the commitment day after day, and moment after moment, of our hearts creaking open the doors of welcome to the possibility of new experience and radical welcome.

The church is not simply a building, a steeple, a pew.

The church is the gathering together of all the people, and experiences, and fear, and love, and hope in our resilient hearts; gathering, however we can, to say to the world: welcome, come in, lay down your heartache, and pick up hope and love.

For the church is us—each and every one of us—together, a beacon of hope to this world that so sorely needs it.

*Rev. Margaret Weis
From The UUA Worship Website*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FYI: Email SCAM

Congregations are being targeted with email scams that include a message sent by what appears to be the minister asking for gift cards to support people with COVID-19. Rev Barbara Does NOT do that.

Plate Collections and Donations in a Virtual World

Many Members and Friends have asked how the Stay at Home mandate and suspension of services in our sanctuary have impacted revenues for UUCOD. The short answer: pretty significantly. Online contributions on Sundays are less than half of our normal plate collections and we're also foregoing about \$850 in rental income each month of closure. Last Sunday's total virtual plate contributions were \$160. The good news is that pledge payments, that make up more than 70% of our revenues, continue on track for the most part.

Circumstances require we change the way we do some things so we're ramping up to allow you to contribute online through a variety of ways. We're currently working on a "Donate Now" option for our Facebook page. Also, starting this week, you'll receive an email by the end of each Sunday service asking if you would like to donate to our virtual collection plate by either credit card or check. You'll be able to opt out of receiving this email but we hope you'll consider continuing to support UUCOD virtually just as you have in the past. You can also donate for this week using the link below:

COLLECTIONS BASKET

You can also donate at <http://uucod.org/donations>. If you haven't created a profile, use the "Create Profile" on the right hand side of the page and enter the required information, including how you would like to pay for your donations. You can input credit card, checking account and/or savings account information for payment of donations on an ongoing basis and opt for one-time or recurring payments. It will take a few minutes to initially setup your profile but ongoing donations will be very simple: log in; specify the amount you want to contribute; determine the date of the donation; select the account from where you want funds drawn; select "one-time" or "periodic;" and select "process." The option also provides you a dashboard and reports on all of your contributions to UUCOD.

Not yet ready to jump into the virtual world? Send your checks to UUCOD at PO Box 2853, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. If you want to pay by credit card or have funds withdrawn from your bank account,

email our treasurer, Jerry L'Hommedieu, at jklh1954@gmail.com or call him at 562-761-7889 to have your donation processed. Contact Jerry as well for any technical problems. Be safe and be well until we see one another again.

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.

UUCOD Scrip

During this time of social distancing, UUCOD is discontinuing ordering the physical scrip cards; however, you can sign up through the Shop With Scrip website (shopwithscrip.com/) to enroll in Presto Pay. You can order reloads to many (but not all cards) or get ScripNow (an electronic scrip card). Contact: Sheryl Eaton if you have any questions.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

UUCOD the Vote: Information You Can Use

This is the first in a series of articles created to give you the information you need to help protect the right for all citizens to vote. The Social Justice Committee has been researching ways for our congregation members to participate in get-out-the-vote campaigns from our homes. We have aligned with national non-partisan organizations to ensure that every voter has the opportunity to cast a ballot in November.

FIRST STEP: VOTE IN THE UPCOMING SPECIAL ELECTION: STATE SENATE DISTRICT 28

WHEN: Tuesday, May 12, 2020

WHY: This special election will fill the seat vacated by Jeff Stone who resigned to accept an appointment.

WHO: Candidates are Elizabeth Romero (Democrat) and Melissa Melendez (Republican).

WHERE: Beginning April 13, all registered voters in the district will be mailed a *Vote By Mail Ballot*.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION: April 27

WHAT: There have been some voter registration irregularities in past elections, so this week's step is to check your current registration status.

DO RIGHT NOW: Check that you are registered to vote, check your political party, and correct mailing address at [Check Your Voter Status](#). **Please share this link with friends.** After you check your status, sign up for [BallotTrax](#). This service provides email or text updates on the processing of your ballot as it is mailed, received and counted.

Well in the Desert Needs Your Support for Socks on the Second

President Arlene Rosenthal thanks you for the 89 pairs of socks you brought last month that were taken to Well in the Desert, & distributed to the unhoused women, men & children who walk through their doors. She greatly appreciates our beloved community's support.

She says that with a skeleton crew observing all safety measures, they are serving 100-150 people every day for hot meals & food distribution. As the days have passed, she has seen the numbers for both of these programs steadily rising. The Well keeps its Cooling/Heating Center open every day for those in need of showers and services, expecting them to wear masks & practice stringent safety measures upon entering the building.

With all these added safety measures in place & serving even more people in need, their costs are also steadily rising.

Instead of buying a couple of pairs of socks this month, please use the money you would have spent and send them a small donation. No amount is too small. Now more than ever, they cannot do without your support!

Click here to safely donate on their website: [Donate to Well in the Desert](#)

If you prefer to mail a check:

Well in the Desert

P.O. Box 5312

Palm Springs, CA 92263

Thank you for your generosity!

[Donate to Well In The Desert](#)

April 19 Virtual Share-the-Plate Friends of Desert Mountains

[Note: Thanks to all who gave in March for TODEC Legal Services. Our UUCOD Treasurer divided the share-the-plate collection and sent TODEC \$401.13 to support their work. Thanks!]

April STP honoree Friends of the Desert Mountains is dedicated to building community support to preserve the unique wildlife and scenic beauty of the Coachella Valley and desert mountains. FODM has spent 30 years in conservation, and supports the National Monument Visitor Center to educate the community. FODM volunteers and staff go into the field with kids, leading hikes and giving classes. They also have protected over 60,000 acres of land that has been identified for its scenic, biological, recreational or cultural significance. Through key acquisitions, permanent protection is given to maintain the beauty, character, and diversity of the Coachella Valley and support ecological research.

Please support Friends of the Desert Mountains on April 19 by donating to UUCOD April Share-the-Plate. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE

July 11th, 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.

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert

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