

April 17, 2020



## UUCOD Weekly Reminder

### SERVICES

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

**Joys and Sorrows:** Reverend Barbara would like to include your joys and sorrows in the Sunday Worship Service. If you want to have your name spoken in the reading, please include your name at the end of the message. If you do not include your name, she will respect your privacy. Email your joys and sorrows to Rev. Barbara each week by Thursday at 9 pm.

#### 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

##### **Virtual Flower Communion**

##### **April 26, 2020**

Rev Barbara needs **you** to help create our Flower Communion.

What is your favorite flower? Create a photo, drawing or ten second video of your flower AND tell us why you love it. If you like, write a HAIKU poem that you read while filming the flower. What is a Haiku?

3 lines:

Line 1 = 5 syllables

Line 2= 7 syllables

Line 3 = 5 syllables.

For instance:

*The poppies in Spring  
California golden glow  
Flutter in the breeze.*

**All ages invited to share their flower!**

## CALENDAR

### **Saturday, April 18**

Board/Committee Chair Retreat-**Postponed**

### **Sunday, April 19**

Share the Plate

10:00 am-Worship Service-**Live Streaming**

11:30 am-Chalice Circles-**ZOOM Meeting**

### **Monday, April 20**

1:00 pm-Chalice Circles-**ZOOM Meeting**

### **Tuesday, April 21**

5:00 pm-Board of Directors-**ZOOM Meeting**

### **Wednesday, April 22**

3:00 pm-Chalice Circles--**ZOOM Meeting**

### **Friday, April 24**

1:30 pm-Afternoon Book Club-**ZOOM Meeting**

### **Save This Date: May 17, 2020**

**NOTICE:** The Annual Congregational Meeting is now scheduled for Sunday May 17, 2020 following the Online Worship Service. You will receive more information regarding this Virtual ZOOM Congregational Meeting in the coming weeks.

This is a very important annual meeting where we hear from our Minister, President and our Standing Committee's. The Nominating Committee will present for your approval their proposed slate of candidates for Board positions for the coming year. Our Treasurer will present for your approval a budget for the coming year. This year you will also be voting on a proposed slate of Share the Plate recipients from our Social Justice Committee.

## STAYING CONNECTED

### *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.



***Click to Join the Meeting***

### *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.*



***Click to Join the Meeting***

***Social BUUterflies - Happy Hour***

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

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

Join your UUCOD friends each Saturday through May at 5:00 pm for a virtual Happy Hour. Everyone's invited! Hope to see you Saturday.



***Click to Join the Meeting***

**BLESSINGS ON THOSE WHO STAY HOME**

We're staying home. Love has never asked this of us before.

We're staying home, this is our gift to humanity.

Let us wish each other well.

For those staying home alone, I offer you this blessing. May you grow a deeper understanding of your own worth. Dear one, leaven the aloneness with gentle care, for this too shall pass. May you be blessed with a peace and serenity; may you find the courage to reach out to hear another's voice and to remember others need you too. May you be well.

For those staying home together. I offer you this blessing. May you find moments of patience and grace in your relations. May you offer each other enough time apart, reassurance and space enough to cry, to safely rage, for this too shall pass. Then, let peace come again into your home. May you see one another's whole self as a gift. May you be well.

For those working from home, I offer you this blessing. May you remember to take breaks. May you find the means to relish your imperfection and the imperfection of others as evidence of our shared humanity. You are enough even when there isn't enough. Make order in your days and then let it go. May you be well.

For those staying home with children, I offer you this blessing. May you find humor and compassion in your days. There will be learning of a different kind, deeper no doubt, unexpected for sure. May there be patience and forgiveness, again, and again, and again. For this too shall pass. May you all remember the deep love that brought your family into being. May there be peace and understanding in your home.

May you be well.  
May we be well.

May it be so.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COVID19 Information from Representative Dr. Raul Ruiz

#### **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 \$465. 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](mailto: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.

#### **ZOOM SCHEDULING REMINDER!**

Please be sure to contact Carol Lavoie at [mclavoie@aol.com](mailto:mclavoie@aol.com) to confirm that the time you wish to reserve for your zoom meeting is open. Checking the zoom schedule online and reserving without contacting Carol has caused some difficulties. The zoom online schedule does NOT show times 'penciled in' for groups who are still trying to confirm with their members on the best date for them.

#### **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/](http://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 week the Social Justice Committee provides more information on the top two runoff of the Special Election for the **California Senate District 28**. This is an open seat with no incumbent since Senator Stone resigned to take a post in the Trump administration.



Visit the candidates websites to see they stand on the issues and their list of endorsers:

**Democrat:** Elizabeth Romero - <https://romeroforsenate.com>

**Republican:** Melissa Melendez - <http://melendezforca.com>

**PREPARE FOR ELECTION DAY:** May 12, 2020

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE OR CHANGE REGISTRATION IN THIS ELECTION:** April 27, 2020. Learn how to register to vote at [Riverside County Registrar of Voters](#)

**EXPECT YOUR BALLOT SOON:** Mailing ballots began April 13, 2020. Mail-in ballots are being sent to ALL registered voters. You do not need to request an absentee ballot unless you want the ballot mailed to a different address. If you do not receive your ballot, [Check Your Voter Status](#) . Once you cast your ballot, track its status at [BallotTrax](#) .

Voted ballots must be received by the elections official no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day or be postmarked on or before Election Day and received no later than three days after election day to be counted.

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#### **April 19 Virtual Share the Plate Friends of Desert Mountains**

April Share the Plate 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. 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.

[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!]

## **SAVE THE DATE**

**July 11th, Harvey Milk Breakfast, Palm Springs Convention Center**  
UUCOD is sponsoring a table of 10. See Jane Zaun for details.

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**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](mailto:admin@uucod.org) asking to reserve space. The newsletter needs to be on the website by 3:00 pm, Fridays.

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