

November 6, 2020



2020 UUCOD AUCTION CALENDAR

FRIDAY 6
Auction Packet Pick-Up @ UUCOD from 12-3 p.m. for bidders who requested packet pick-ups. Zoom invitation for practice bidding session (voluntary) will be sent. Great for "New to Zoom'ers".

SATURDAY 7
Practice bidding session ON ZOOM (voluntary). 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (PT). Log on using the link you received. Just for fun!

WEDNESDAY 11
Proxy silent and live auction bids due by 9:00 p.m. * Drop-off physical auction donations 10-noon & 4-6 p.m. @ UUCOD

THURSDAY 12
Live auction Zoom invitation will be sent.

FRIDAY 13
Drop-in 'best bid' silent auction. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. @ UUCOD. COVID precautions in place. Masks required.

SATURDAY 14
Live auction starting @6:00 PM

MONDAY 16
You will receive a list of items you won along with amount due.

FRIDAY 20
Payments due. Credit card payments can be made using the link provided in bill or you can send a personal check (in the envelope you received in your packet). If mailing, please be sure the address is the P.O. box of UUCOD and NOT the street address. Personal checks are preferred (no charge card fees).

* Email Carol Lavioie at mlavioie@uucod.com or Barbara Storms at bstorm@uucod.com with item numbers and maximum bids.

UUCOD Weekly Reminder

SERVICES

ZOOM at 10:00 am this Sunday.

Next Sunday return to Livestream.

Zoom opens at 9:30 am

November 8, 2020

Mission Impossible?

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

Worship Associate: Sarah Gonzales

It is Post Election 2020. No matter the outcome, we have a chosen mission as UU's: To be a sanctuary for diversity, spiritual growth and social justice, to bind up the broken, restore ruins of generations, and build Beloved Community.

November 15, 2020

Thrive: Expanding a Heart, Living into an Embracing Universalism

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

Worship Associate: Bob Rancourt

It was just over twenty years ago that I was ordained a UU Clergywoman. I have been blessed by many teachers along the way. I will share what I have learned from two of them.

November 22, 2020

Grateful for Caring

Worship Leaders: Rev. Ian W. Riddell & the UUCOD Care Team

Worship Associate: Bryna Blum

We know that we cannot thrive without connection and support from the people and communities that sustain us. Join us this morning as we share gratitude and aspirations for how our own religious community supports us and how we can all take part in caring for each other.

This is Share the Plate Sunday.

November 29, 2020

A Church of Many Sensibilities: A Sunday with UUs in Asia and the Pacific

Worship Leader: Rev. Tet Gallardo

Worship Associate: Sarah Gonzales

We say that the UU Church of the Philippines (UUCP) was founded in 1955. And when our generation tells this story we usually say because of the American Unitarians. That is accurate if we mean the word Unitarian, rooted in what the West calls their Enlightenment and their Renaissance, are in fact values ancient and organic to the East. It is false if we mean that Unitarian values were introduced to the Philippines by the West. It is also true if we mean that Filipinos needed a word for the historical persistence of indigenous humanitarian values in their culture and Unitarian was adopted as a counter-oppression to fundamentalism in the country.

COLLECTIONS BASKET

"INSPIRATIONAL" QUOTE OF THE WEEK

There is nothing like a dream to create the future.

-Victor Hugo

CALENDAR

Sunday Worship: Sunday @ 10:00 am

All Congregational Information Meeting AV Proposal: Sunday @ 11:00 am

Finance Committee: Sunday @ 12:00 pm

Poetry Class: Tuesday @ 10:30 am

Membership Committee: Tuesday @ 6:00 pm

BIOPOC: Every 3rd Wednesday @ 5:30 pm

Building Your Own Theology Class: Thursday @ 3:00 pm

Social Justice: Thursday @ 6:30 pm

Drop-In Silent Auction at UUCOD: Friday @ 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Zoom Live Auction: Saturday @ 6:00 pm

Staying Connected

Sunday Together: Sunday @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Loving Kindness Meditation: Thursday @ 12:00 - 12:30 pm

Coffee & Conversation: Friday @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plate Collections for Sunday, November 1, 2020: \$259.00

Social BUUterflies Happy Hour

Join us for zoom Happy Hour to warm up for the annual auction.
Saturday, Nov 14, 5:00-6:00 pm.

**IMPORTANT ALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
AUDIO-VISUAL PROPOSAL**

Dear UUCOD Congregants,

Although we do not know when we will fully return to the sanctuary, we expect that someday, when services do return to the sanctuary, we will start with tiny audiences that increase very gradually. We will not want to fully occupy all the seats for a very long time, and some congregants might not be comfortable returning until long after the protocols are relaxed. There will be a substantial period where most of us will still be watching online, even once the services are conducted in the sanctuary.

Some generous donors plus a matching grant may provide us the ability to equip the sanctuary permanently for streaming without affecting the church budget. We could then provide services into the future for our snowbirds, congregants living remotely or who are infirm. Live streaming will also help serve as outreach to our community both near and distant. The board is enthusiastic about this initiative and is eager to share it with the congregation and get your feedback.

We are inviting you to an informational meeting on November 8th at 11AM to provide as much transparency as possible around this initiative and hope you can join us.

Many thanks.
UUCOD Board of Directors

The Migrant Education Program Christmas Party & Toy Drive Is Back!!!!

We are thrilled to announce that UUCOD will be participating in CVUSD's Migrant Education Program's Christmas Party & Toy Drive. This much-loved program helps our migrant families who live in the East Valley have a more joyful Christmas. In past years, volunteers served a buffet dinner to all the families who attended the party held in early December. Leading up to it, we held a Toy Drive and you, our beloved Congregation, would bring in hundreds of unwrapped toys which the children and youth could pick from at the party. Due to Coronavirus and the need to practice social distancing, this year's plans have changed. Instead of holding a traditional party, families will have a Caravan Christmas Party. Plated dinners and special surprises will be given to each family member in their car upon their arrival at the Migrant Education Center.

For the Toy Drive, instead of purchasing toys and bringing them to UUCOD, we will be collecting donations electronically via a **TOY DRIVE DONATIONS** button, much like the weekly Virtual Offering Basket for Sunday Services. The total funds collected will be converted into a Scrip e-gift card and emailed to the Migrant Education Program. They will then shop for toys, which will be handed out to each child and youth when they drive up. Additionally, the funds in the Migrant Education Reserve account will be added to this to help make as many children as possible have a Christmas toy. Currently, there are 1,650 migrant children & youth in Kindergarten through grade 12 within CVUSD. For a majority of them, if it wasn't for our generosity, they would simply not receive anything at Christmas.

TOY DRIVE DONATION

This year we have added another fun way for you to support migrant families. We are holding our **First Annual Thanks & Giving Food Donation Calendar** which will donate greatly needed non-perishable foods to these families. The calendar is below this article. On it is a list of items that are to be placed in a box each day in November. You are to fill the box with all the items (no substitutes) making sure they are not expired. Your box filled with all the items will be dropped at UUCOD on December 4 and the Social Justice Committee will take them to the Migrant Education Center for distribution to the families at their Christmas Party. You must sign up to participate so we can let the Migrant Education Program know how many boxes will be collected. We hope to have another successful year for this much-loved UUCOD tradition. For more information, email co-coordinators Joni Paddock or Carol McDaniel

Thanks & Giving Food Donation Calendar for CVUSD's Migrant Education Program's Christmas Party

Each day in November until Thanksgiving, please add the unexpired item listed to a box. On December 4, bring the completely filled box to UUCOD between 3:00 - 6:00 pm. We'll Deliver it to CVUSD's Migrant Education Program before their Christmas Party. Email Joni Paddock for Details and to Sign Up



- November 1 - Box of Cereal
- November 2 - Peanut Butter
- November 3 - Cooking Oils (corn, canola, vegetable)
- November 4 - Flour (corn or regular flour)
- November 5 - Macaroni & Cheese
- November 6 - Canned Fruit
- November 7 - Canned Tomato Sauce/Paste
- November 8 - Canned Tuna
- November 9 - Dessert Mix (ex: brownie mixes & already made pudding cups,)
- November 10 - Jar of Applesauce
- November 11 - Canned Sweet Potatoes
- November 12 - Dried Herbs/Spices (cinnamon, oregano, bay leaves, salt, sugar)
- November 13 - Bag of Beans (beans, lentils)
- November 14 - Box of Crackers
- November 15 - Package of Rice
- November 16 - Package of Oatmeal
- November 17 - Package Pasta
- November 18 - Spaghetti Sauce
- November 19 - Chicken Noodle Soup
- November 20 - Canned/Powdered Milk (evaporated, condensed & powdered)
- November 21 - Can Corn
- November 22 - Can Mixed Vegetables
- November 23 - Can Carrots
- November 24 - Can Green Beans
- November 25 - Canned Chiles (jalapenos in vinegar sauce)



Stories of Pride

UUCOD recently announced that the 2020 Pride Parade has been canceled. Insight Community of the Desert would like to invite UUCOD to participate in their event honoring 2020 Pride Day on November 8. Stories of Pride will present life-stories of members of the Coachella Valley LGBTQI+ community. Listen to [this audio invitation](#) to share **your** stories of coming out, of love, of growth, of loss, or perhaps of an interesting chapter in your life. After listening to the invitation you can schedule your interview with Adrian Estrada

More information on the event will be forthcoming.



Palm Springs Pride 2020

Pride Weekend is November 6-8 in Palm Springs and the Palm Springs Pride invites the community to come together in solidarity, in the spirit of activism, and to demonstrate resilience under the theme Exist. Resist. Persist. A combination of...

[Read more](#)

hosted.verticalresponse.com

News from the Care Team:

The Care Team is currently reaching out to members and friends of the congregation to see how you are and how you're doing. Please, if you are in need of support of any kind, let us know. We are here for you, so don't be shy...

Stay well and stay safe.

Bryna Blum
Chair, Care Team

UUCOD Afternoon Book Group

The afternoon book group will be having a Zoom meeting the last Friday of the month, November 27th, at 1:30 p.m. Please join us to discuss *The Sympathizer*. It is the 2015 debut novel by Vietnamese American professor Viet Thanh Nguyen. It is a best-selling novel and recipient of the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

The novel fits the expectations of a number of different novel genres: immigrant, mystery, political, historical fiction, dark comedic, spy, and war. The story depicts the anonymous narrator, a North Vietnamese mole in the South Vietnamese army, who stays embedded in a South Vietnamese community in exile in the United States. Nguyen weaves an intricate, layered story of a character who faces the cataclysmic dread of being found out on a daily (if not hourly) basis, yet who also desperately wants to find his own identity and place himself within a familiar and familial context. Yes, he identifies as a double agent, but he also identifies as “illegitimate, bastard, Eurasian, Amerasian, love child, natural child.”

Contact Lavonne Swanson if you would like to receive the needed Zoom information to join in the discussion: email **Lavonne Swanson**

Art Talk Blurb

Calling all UUCOD creative types! Join us for an informal Zoom conversation of ArtTalk on Monday, November 30, 5:00 pm PT. Works in progress welcome. We'll talk about what we are doing artwise, however we define that. Let's share, inspire, and support. Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can. Screen sharing will be available. Have a few jpgs in your photo library. If you're uncertain how screen sharing works, especially for iPads, join the meeting early and we'll walk you through it. Having something to show is not a requirement.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Election is Finally Over. What's Next?

The election is finally over, we are all on edge & waiting on the results, which may not be called for quite some time. Election Anxiety is real and it can have some serious consequences. So what should we do? We make a plan to take care of ourselves and each other while we wait.

If you are someone who is stressed out from hyper-vigilantly watching TV or scanning the news for the latest reports, don't do it. Instead, do something that brings you joy. Call or Zoom your friends, take a walk, read, play cards, listen to music, journal, or get outside. Snuggle up with the ones you love. Schedule into everyday whatever brings you joy and do it. Replace activities that create stress with activities like eating healthy without cell phones or media, With the cooler temperatures, we are now able to be outside. Walk UUCOD's Peace Labyrinth, swim, garden, or meditate. Schedule time each day that is a no media zone: No TV, internet, newspapers, magazines or talking about it. As always, commit to sleeping 7-8 hours each night. Can't sleep through the night? Take a nap during the day.

Finally, get inspired by things that bring you hope. Read inspiring authors like Brene Brown, look at photos or art. Sing. Talk with your friends about how they find hope in their lives. Journal. Create.

Bottom line is we don't know what our nation's future will hold. But we do want you around to be part of it. Please take care of yourself. You are important.

November's Share the Plate to Benefit Holiday Gift Drive for SafeHouse of the Desert & Harrison House

Remember last year when there was a little Christmas tree on the patio, filled with tags of names and gift requests from young people at SafeHouse and Harrison House? You bought & brought them back to UUCOD and we wrapped and gave them to the residents

at Christmas time. Unfortunately due to Coronavirus restrictions, things will be a bit different this year. But one thing will remain the same: we will still be able to give these teenagers and young adults the love and support they so desperately need.

Our Sunday, November 22nd Share the Plate will benefit SafeHouse of the Desert & Harrison House. Instead of buying the requested items, your generous giving will be used to purchase Target e-gift cards from our Scrip program, which residents will use to buy their own present. It's just like when your Aunt Edna or Grandpa gave you money at Christmas. You bought what you wanted and needed.

Safehouse of the Desert is a life-saving shelter for youth ages 11 to 17 who have run away from home or whose parents no longer want them there. Some have been victims of human trafficking and have no place to go once they are picked up by police. It is a small shelter, housing 7 girls as of mid October. Harrison House is transitional housing for young adults 18 to 21 years of age, some who have "aged out" of the foster care system and have limited ability and resources to live on their own. There are currently 16 young people living there. As the holidays draw closer, both facilities expect to see more youth and young adults walk through their doors.

Sadly, they have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Program Director Shawn Johnson says that Coachella Valley organizations that have regularly donated funds to the two programs have been unable to provide their typical level of financial support, which staff at Safehouse and Harrison House rely upon to keep these much-needed programs operating. They have had to cut staff, repairs have been postponed, and they are unable to purchase new furniture for the housing units, which has been worn out over years of continued use. Keeping the programs going has been paramount as they can literally be lifesavers for youth in our community. They need financial support now more than ever before.

This is the second Share the Plate that we, the Congregation voted on last May. Your donation will provide a happier holiday for these youth and young adults who have literally nowhere to go and are in need of everything. Please give as generously as you are able. For more information, please email Denise Janssen Eager (djansseneager@gmail.com)

Be Safe and Well!

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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