

December 4th, 2020



UUCOD Weekly Reminder

SERVICES

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

December 6, 2020

How Do We Covenant for Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging

Worship Leader: Lauren Nile and the BIOPOC Group

Worship Associate: Sarah Gonzales

A service of personal stories of UU's of Color about widening the circle of our faith.

December 13, 2020

Modest Gifts And Signs of Love

Worship Leader: Rev Barbara

Worship Associate: Joni Paddock, & the UUCOD Choir

Tis the season of seeking hope in the midst of troubles, and reassurance that we still have gifts to give and receive. This Sunday we will look at the miracle of Hanukah, and ask the perennial question, "What shall we do with our gifts?"

PLEASE COME TO THE CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING ON ZOOM AFTER THE SERVICE.

December 20, 2020

A Sermon for the Solstice: "Following Our Star Home"

Worship Leader: Rev. Barbara Fast

Worship Associate: Bob Rancourt and Betty Bender

Solstice means 'sun stands still'. It is the year's longest night. Human beings have always looked up and watched the night sky stars move. We seek to navigate our fears

and hopes with some kindness and courage.

December 24, 2020 at 5:00 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Zoom Service

Worship Leaders: Rev. Barbara Fast, Rev. Ian Riddell, Bryna Blum, Choir, Kurt Jordan and Soloists!

Join us for our traditional Christmas Eve Service. We will have candles and stars and we will celebrate the love that we share for each other, our neighbors, ourselves and this whole holy beautiful messy broken miracle of a world.

December 27, 2020

Gentle Strength: Kindness and Healing

Worship Leaders: Rev. Ian W. Riddell

Worship Associate: TBD

The band know as The Alternate Fields tell us that "We are how we treat each other, nothing more." As we face a new year and new opportunities to build a world of justice and equity, as we strive to heal our hearts and our relationships in a time of struggle, how do we remain steadfastly faithful to each other? Join us at the end of the year as we explore kindness as a healing way of being.

COLLECTIONS BASKET

"INSPIRATIONAL" QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization.
Mahatma Gandhi

CALENDAR

Sunday Worship: Sunday @ 10:00 am

Poetry Class: Tuesday @ 10:30 am

Membership Committee: Tuesday @ 6:00 pm

Social Justice: Thursday @ 6:30 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

Social BUUterflies Happy Hour: Saturday @ 5:00 - 6:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plate Collections for Sunday, November 29, 2020: \$129.00

Remember: December 13 is an Important Congregational Business Meeting

The Board has called a Congregational Special Business meeting on December 13 after the Sunday Service. The Congregation will be asked to vote on the proposal to extend online streaming after we return to live services and to add large TV screens in the sanctuary. We held an informational session after Sunday Services on November 8 and are now asking for approval in accordance with our By-Laws.

News from the Care Team:

Friends,

Holidays can be difficult. This year especially so. PLEASE reach out if you're not well, need a meal or just want someone on the other end of the phone to listen with a caring heart.

Don't be shy. We are YOUR Care Team and are here for you.

Bryna Blum

760 485 9289

Scrip Gift Cards

Are you at a loss as to how to safely do your holiday shopping? Do you miss our SCRIP fundraisers for UUCOD?

There is now an app you can use to order Scrip Gift Cards (mailed directly to your home), or ECards that you can put in your virtual wallet for shopping, or to email as a gift, to your contractor, or your neighbor who does your grocery shopping for you.

What I like about the App & the wallet feature is that you don't need to carry a zillion giftcards with you. You always carry your phone, right? Or if you are shopping at a store & haven'tt purchased a gift card yet, you can quickly go to the app & buy one while you are waiting to check out.

The App is called Raise Right & its so easy to use & UUCOD gets a percentage of each card purchase. The church code is **65BF518511248**

There is normally a shipping fee on the actual gift cards, but thru Dec 4, there is no cost to you for the cards to be mailed to your home. (there is a \$0.15 fee to have the funds for your card purchase transferred from your checking account).

If you want to finish your shopping the easy way & help UUCOD, download the Rase Right App now. If you need help, call or email me- I'm in the directory.

Happy Shopping!

Sheryl Eaton
UUCOD Scrip Fund Raising Program

CREATING CHRISTMAS EVE STARS

As we celebrate Christmas Eve on the 24th, we'll be taking some time to share our hopes and dreams for the coming year. We want you to help us build this part of our service. Last year, we hung stars on our tree. This year technology will help us do something wonderful!

Here's how:

1. **Download** the pdf of a Christmas star from this link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Lsvv8dc4pR_eQ0ngujUO_fd4M3A8m388/view?usp=sharing. Print it out. There will also be some pre-printed stars in a basket

outside the church building—you can drive by and pick up what you need. (Please be sure to wear a mask and social distance if others are there when you are). You could even draw your own star!

2. **Think** about what you hope the new year will bring. Think about what you'll bring to the new year.
3. **Write** your thoughts inside the star and then **decorate** it with lines and color. Make it look spectacular! Couples and families can make one star or individual stars. The more the merrier!
4. **Take a picture** of the star with your phone or digital camera or tablet and **send** the picture to Rev. Ian at revianwriddell@gmail.com by **Sunday, December 13**.
5. Hang on to your stars. We're going to collect them after Christmas so they can become a more-permanent piece of collective art crafted by Glenn Yamaguchi. Stay tuned for more instructions.

If you've got questions, please contact Rev. Ian at revianwriddell@gmail.com

Thanks and happy imagining!

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Well in the Desert is a Lifeline During this Pandemic

Well in the Desert, our December 20th Share the Plate recipient, is a small grassroots organization that has been operating for 25 years. In a normal year they serve more than 1000 people who are affected by poverty throughout the western end of the Coachella Valley. However, with this pandemic, they see more than 100 clients walk through their doors every day!

With Project Room Key - California's short-term response to reducing COVID-19 among the homeless population - not being renewed, all those who've been housed in hotels within the Coachella Valley will be evicted by December 31st. That combined with there being no overnight shelters in Palm Springs, Desert Hot Springs, & Cathedral City means that everyone will once again be homeless sleeping in the desert when our nights are in the 40s!

So Well's mission to provide these items becomes even more important:

- Nutritious lunches 7 days a week
- Emergency food assistance
- Weekly supplemental food distribution
- Assistance with food stamps, emergency medical financial assistance, & IDs
- Showers & personal care products
- Clean warm clothes & blankets
- An address so clients can receive assistance checks & personal mail
- Case management for medical, mental health, & dental services
- Van rides to appointments
- Advocacy
- And much, much more!

Most of all, the Well provides a place where people can be treated with dignity and respect, which when you think about it, is our first principle. Please give generously this holiday season.

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.

