

April 9, 2021

## UUCOD WEEKLY REMINDER



### SERVICES

Join our Worship Services at 10:00  
AM

**April 11, 2021**

**"Covenant and Community"**

**Worship Leader: Rev Ian W. Riddell**

**Worship Associate: Sarita Gonzales**

What does it mean to live in covenant with each other? How do we live into our promises and how do we deal with the breaking of those promises? Why does it matter that we center ourselves on the ways we choose to live together and not what we believe? Rev. Ian shares the second of two reflections inspired by the winners of "Choose a Sermon" at this year's auction.

**April 18, 2021**

**"Flower Communion and Volunteer Appreciation" (On ZOOM)**

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Barbara Fast

We will celebrate our UUCOD Volunteers! There are so many of you and so much to celebrate!

**Worship Associate: Robert Rancourt**

Please bring your flowers to the ZOOM service for sharing.

COMMITTEES PLEASE TAKE A "SCREEN SHOT" AND SEND TO [Rev. Barbara](#) by April 11.

**April 25, 2021**

**"To Go On"**

**Worship Leader: Rev Tania Marquez**

**Worship Associate: Derek Moore**

A message about life after loss. This pandemic year has been a year of losses for all of us, and for some the loss has been greater and unimaginable. Loss is inevitable and this message explores the ways in which humans learn and move through grief and the role that our communities can play in the road towards healing.

Rev. Tania Y Márquez is the assistant minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego. She is also a group leader of the UU College for Social Justice. She has a background on Latin American Literature and Spanish Linguistics, is married and has two teenage daughters. She has lived most of her life in the border region and her frontera experience has greatly influenced her ministry.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

### **Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine Our Share The Plate Recipient on April 11th**

Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine (CVVIM) provides a local solution to a national problem – access to healthcare. They believe that everyone has the right to healthcare. The services they provide include primary medical and dental, among many others, at no cost to adults in the Coachella Valley who are uninsured or under-insured.

As a community safety net, the Health Center treats the whole person by addressing chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes and arthritis. It also treats acute conditions, such as, colds, flu, preventive medicine, diet, and emotional health. In addition to direct patient care, health education and wellness programs are provided.

CVVIM's Health Center has been operating for 11 years and is the only no-cost health clinic in the Coachella Valley. It is staffed by a dedicated and diligent group of healthcare and community volunteers, who along with governmental leaders champion the cause of helping neighbors who are in need.

Join us on Share the Plate Sunday, April 11th, to learn more about this much-needed nonprofit organization.

## JOIN REV. IAN RIDDELL'S CLASS

**Setting Boundaries in Community**

**Saturday April 17 @ 1 - 4 pm**

**“Have any of you wondered how to maintain boundaries in relationships with others with whom you are in a caring relationship?”**

How do we maintain proper and appropriate boundaries when providing care? Where are our limits in terms of our expertise and expectations? How do we assess the appropriateness of levels of care? How do we practice self care, so that our priorities are others' needs? Join Rev. Ian as we explore these questions and build some skills. Last month Rev. Ian offered a class on Listening. He presented information on deep, active listening skills, including how to really pay attention. During class we had the opportunity to practice active, non judgmental listening. Setting Boundaries is a natural follow-up to active listening.

Please consider joining us for this class. Care Team members and *all congregants* are invited to this Zoom workshop.

A link is available from the UUCOD webpage under UPCOMING EVENTS

## CALENDAR

**Sunday Worship Service:** Sunday, April 11 @ 10:00am Live Streaming

**Finance Committee:** Sunday, April 11 @ 11:30am

**Book Discussion: "This Is How It Always Is"** Tuesday, April 13 @ 10:00am

**Chalice Circle Facilitators Meeting:** Tuesday April 13 @ 3:00pm

**Membership Committee:** Tuesday, April 13 @ 5:30pm

**"Let's Get Together" Origami Project with Leonard Lee,** Wednesday, April 14 @ 3:00pm

**Chalice Circle:** Thursday, April 15 @ 2:30pm

**Boundaries in Community with Rev. Ian:** Saturday, April 17 @ 1:00pm

### 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, April 4, 2021: \$361**

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**News from the Care Team:**

Friends,

Looks like we'll be sheltering in place and being extra careful for a while longer.

*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. Your well-being is important to us.

**Contact: Bryna Blum**

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### CARING FOR OUR GROUNDS

**When: Monday April 12 9:00--11:00am**

**Where: UUCOD Parking Lot**

We have been given the green light to resume our weekly handypersons get together. All are welcome. We find it's a good opportunity for some fellowship while contributing to the care of our grounds.

We will be doing some light weeding, picking up and anything else that appears to need some attention.

If interested, you are welcome. Be sure to wear sun screen and a hat, and bring some water.

## SOCIAL BUUTERFLIES



**Wednesday April 14, 2021 @ 3 - 5 pm**

Our very gifted friend, Leonard Lee is going to teach us a VERY easy Origami Project.

No need for fancy paper or equipment - got an 8 1/2 X 11 sheet of paper, any color sharpie pen & a credit card or business card ( to ck for fit). That's all that's needed. Once you learn the simple folds for this wallet-like creation, you can then reproduce them in fancy papers of your choice.

Come join us, we always have a good time when we "Let's Get Together"

**Coming .....**

In May, Jim Swanson will surprise us with his presentation.

If you would like to share your travels, an online game or an interesting hobby (& maybe teach us how to), please **contact Sheryl Eaton**

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Hurry, time is running out! Don't forget to register for this book discussion on raising a transgender child.

*"this is the way it always is"* by Laurie Frankel.

Book Discussion  
April 13 @ 10 am - Noon  
Facilitator: Peter Mathews



***"Mama Gloria: the Story of Legendary Trans Activist Gloria Allen",***  
Directed by Luchina Fisher

Documentary and Panel Discussion  
Saturday, May 15 @ 2 - 4 pm  
Panel" Luchina Fisher and Gloria Allen

Official Trailer



***We are now in the fight for trans rights,***

Although the narrative that Black trans women have an average life expectancy of under 40 is false, it feels real to many of them because of the violence and discrimination that Black transgender women face. The American Medical Association calls the violence an "epidemic." In 2019, at least 25 transgender people were killed in America, according to the Human Rights Campaign. Ninety-one percent were Black women, and 81 percent were under 30. In 2020, the number of transgender people killed in the first seven months has already exceeded the total number of deaths last year. And this comes at a time when the country is

***Only 20 percent of Americans actually know someone who identifies as transgender.***

That means the other 80 percent are learning about transgender people through the media or other sources.

That's why it's so important for me to make this film. I want everyone to meet Gloria. I believe audiences will embrace *Mama Gloria* both because of the specificity of its subject — a transgender elder — and the universality of its themes — family, self-acceptance, aging, resilience, faith and love.

~ *Lucina Fisher, Director*

**SAFESCHOOLS**  
DESERT CITIES

All Proceeds go to Safe Schools  
Desert Cities

A local LGBTQ youth organization

reckoning with a long history of racial injustice and inequality.

## EARTH WEEK ACTIVITIES

### **Join us for Earth Week Zoom Activities!**

The Climate & Environmental Justice team, with Mack Rogers and Denise Janssen Eager as Co-Chairs, has some noteworthy special events planned for our congregation during Earth Week.

#### **“The Vanishing Salton Sea” (8 minutes, 23 seconds long)**

##### **Film and guest panel speakers**

Sunday April 18 after the Worship service

This video gives a great overview of the current challenges facing our nearby Salton Sea and what can be done to help. The discussion following will be exciting, as you’ll hear from a local expert who is knowledgeable and working for environmental justice.

#### **“Saving the Salton Sea” (28 minutes, 30 seconds)**

**Thursday April 22 (official Earth Day 2021)**

This documentary is different, as it takes us through several of the current projects and options for addressing the challenges of salinity, sea shrinkage, and dust exposure that threaten the lives of humans and wildlife. This includes wind erosion of the exposed former seabed sediments (the playa), which contain pesticide residues from farm field runoff that flows into the Salton Sea. Wind erosion sends contaminant-bearing particles aloft and into the lungs of local residents downwind.

The film highlights the problems and solutions from the many viewpoints of people who are directly affected by the Salton Sea’s hazardous pollutants and stakeholders carrying out mitigation projects.

*Please join us in both events and discuss what is being done and what we can do to support action to preserve health and the sea itself.*

## BOARD UPDATE ON COVID

### **When, Oh When, can we gather together inside our lovely building ??**

Locally, there is much good news. Infection rates have dropped, most seniors are vaccinated, and the county has entered the Orange Tier. The Governor predicts that the entire Tier system can be abolished June 15, with businesses open without restrictions other than a recommendation to wear masks.

That said, we still need to be cautious. Waves of new infection have hit Europe and several US

States. Dr. Fauci highlights data showing spread in younger populations, especially in day care centers and indoor contact sports. Now is a good time to encourage your grandchildren to hang in there a little longer and stay safe. Fortunately, with proper masks and spacing, schools do not seem to be spreaders, so that is extremely encouraging for both children and their parents, especially many mothers who have borne the double burden of childcare and work.

**On April 20, the Board will discuss proposed protocols to allow most indoor activities at UUCOD.** (As always, your attendance at Board Meeting is welcome.) Of course many groups may choose to remain meeting on Zoom. The one thing we are all waiting for, resuming Sunday Services, will be further away since we are not yet equipped to do a live service and broadcast at the same time. We hope to receive our grant money this month, which then allows acquisition, installation, training and practice to take place over the summer.

Here (or in the Church Documents on the Governance page of the is a link to the Board Approved UUCOD Outdoor Phase II COVID Protocols:

### [Outdoor Protocols Phase Two](#)

**UUA Guidance on in-person gatherings** states "Our recommendations for congregations are indeed more stringent than schools and businesses that surround you, for the following reasons:

- As a community that values inclusion and collective care, we don't want to create in-person situations that inadvertently exclude those at higher risk, or create situations that force those at higher risk to publicly identify themselves. Our decision-making must center the needs of the most vulnerable.
- The membership of most UU congregations is an older, more vulnerable population than the general public.
- We do not want congregational staff and ministers to be put at risk on the job.
- A normally-operating congregation presents too many opportunities to spread a highly contagious respiratory virus like COVID-19."
- [UUA Guidance on Gathering In-Person When COVID-19 Subsides | UUA.org](#)

### **Worship in-person**

As the pandemic restrictions loosen up, when will we resume in-person services? Well, not for quite a while. There are two factors at play. One is the risk of a larger group indoors, especially with singing. The other is the schedule for the AV system. We will very likely re-open the building for smaller activities first, with in-person worship coming later.

The AV matching grant award moved from January to April and delayed the project three months. (We are not buying the gear until we actually have the award.) That means that the installation, programming, training and time for the production team to get comfortable with the new system all moved out three months as well. We are doing what we can to mitigate part of the delay, such as going ahead with installation of wiring and internet in the building, but it will take a while.

To re-open, the worship services must include both in-person and streaming since some people will want to attend as soon as they can and others will not be comfortable for some time. That means we won't resume in-person services until the AV system is running and the production team is comfortable enough to go live.

We will likely be able to safely re-open the building for other, smaller activities first, with in-person services coming last. We are doing what we can to keep the AV project moving while awaiting the grant, and tracking the latest advice on safe gatherings for larger groups and for singing. We all want to get back together as soon as we can!

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**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Church Council:** Saturday April 24, 2:00pm-4:00pm

# 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](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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