

July 9, 2021

## UUCOD WEEKLY REMINDER



## SERVICES

**July 11, 2021**

**The Doctrine of Discovery: Then and Now**

**Worship Leader:** Kevin Brandt

**Worship Associate:** Robert Rancourt

In this sermon Kevin Brandt discusses the 15th Century Doctrine of Discovery as principally set forth in the Papal Encyclical "Inter Caetera.". With Robert's help, he will explore Inter Caetera and other Encyclicals which in combination gave legal authorization to any Christian leader to kill indigenous people and plunder their lands; he will discuss the doctrine's enduring legacy and legal relevance today.

**July 18, 2021**

**Worship from the Wider World**

Join us as we share a powerful, healing, and uplifting service from our recent Unitarian Universalist General Assembly.

**July 25, 2021**

**Empty Lands: The Prequel**

**Worship Leader:** Kevin Brandt

**Worship Associate:** Jane Zaun

In this sermon Kevin Brandt discusses the 11th Century Papal Encyclical "Terra Nulles," as well as other Encyclicals. The Encyclicals are the chronological predecessor to the Doctrine of Discovery. With Jane's help, he will explore their authorization to enable Christian Leaders to plunder "Empty" lands, and engage in the slave trade. Kevin will discuss the effects of the Encyclicals and their enduring legacy to this day.

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## WORSHIP SERVICES MOVE TO ZOOM

**The Sunday Worship Services will be available on Zoom going forward  
You can use this same link every Sunday**

### **Why?**

- Facebook has stopped our services several times and there is no way to prevent it. The algorithm scans for any content that is copyrighted and halts the stream, even though we have licensed the material. This is an issue for churches everywhere.
- We get to see each other! In particular, Reverend Ian would love to see our faces on Sundays.

### **Public versus Private**

- We are open and welcoming, and invite the public to attend our Worship Services. You may share the Sunday Worship link with anyone, and we will post it on Facebook and our website.
- While we encourage you to turn on your camera, you may turn it off if you are uncomfortable.
- Note, the Sunday Together coffee hour is a separate Zoom link and will remain private.

### **Zoom (live)**

- We have greatly restricted the controls for the public Worship Service.
- You will not be able to unmute or share your screen during the service.
- You will be able to chat and post emojis, similar to Facebook Live.

### **Facebook (for viewing later)**

- We will post the Worship Service on Facebook around noon. If Facebook shuts it down, getting it restored can take up to a week.

## **MESSAGE FROM REV. IAN**



Hello Friends,

How grateful and humble I am to be taking up the mantle of serving you as your lead minister. I have come to love you and this community over the past year and am deeply inspired by the visions you are dreaming and by the love and kindness you continue to share with each other.

I'm so glad to be on this journey with you.

As I said at our celebration for Rev. Barbara a few weeks ago, I've been moved as I watched you take care of each other and this community over the past year. And I know that the year ahead will be full of opportunities for all of us to imagine and bring to life that care in new and deeper ways. As we expand our ministry of diversity, inclusion, and belonging; as we come together again face-to-face in Sunday worship; as we revitalize our music ministry; as we continue and expand our lifespan faith development and reimagine how we can serve all ages.

All that is to come. And I hope in these summer months you will also hear a call to rest a little. To find ways to stay cool and to listen to your hearts and your bodies and what they need of you right now.

I want to share with you my schedule in July and August:

- Sundays, I'll be with you in worship online and working from home
- Mondays and Tuesdays, I'll be in the office from 10am to around 4pm
- Wednesdays and Saturdays, I'll be working from home and available for appointments by phone and Zoom
- Thursdays and Fridays are my days off

We are working on updating phone and e-mail for the minister. For now, please contact me at my mail address or by leaving a message with Pam in our office. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

I am so looking forward to getting to know you all even more deeply and building this community and our ministry to it together.

in peace and love  
Rev. Ian

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Happy summer everyone!

As we begin this new church year, I want to thank those who have led us this far. Thank you to Reverend Barbara Fast, for guiding us through the past three years as our Developmental Minister. She helped us set our boat and set us on our way. Thank you to Jane Zaun, as Board President, for so astutely guiding us through Covid-19 and our current transitions. We thank Jerry L'Hommedieu, for all of his years of service as Treasurer. He has helped us grow our financial stability. And to Carol Lavoie, as First Vice President, thank you for helping our community stay together. She helped us find new ways to be together during this difficult time apart.

And now we welcome Rev. Ian Riddell, as our new lead minister. He will guide us as we continue to grow into and through our strategic plan. We also have new faces of leadership on our board of directors and as chairs of our various committees. We look forward to working together this coming year as we navigate returning to our church building.

Rod Belshee and the facilities team have been working tirelessly the past few months to enable us to become a multi-platform church. Soon we will be able to worship in church and online at the same time. Stop by the church, see the work in progress and give Rod a great big thank you for all he has and is doing on our behalf.

As your new Board president, I look forward to getting to know you better and to working with you as we continue our growth as Unitarian Universalists. At the UUA General Assembly this year the association adopted a new Statement of Conscience (SOC). The title of that statement is "Undoing Systemic White Supremacy: A Call to Prophetic Action". We are being called to engage with those already on the front lines moving to overcome racism and dismantle systems of white supremacy. We want to build relationships across boundaries of privilege and oppression. And we are committed to healing actions within our church and the wider community. I know we can work together to support this SOC and help to transform our world into a more just and equitable society.

If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call, or send me an email.

In peace and love,  
Linda Savard, Board President

## LET'S PAY-OFF THE MORTGAGE



On May 18, 2021, the Board of Directors authorized the Finance Committee to organize a capital campaign to raise funds to pay off the existing mortgage on our building. We would like to enlist your help and generosity to raise at least \$75,000 to be applied to the mortgage by May 2022. A generous couple in the congregation has already pledged \$10,000 towards this effort to be matched by other individuals who can give any amount. If you would like to be part of this exciting project, please contact [Chris Eager](#) or [Sarita Gonzales](#). If you've already decided that you want to contribute to this great cause, please contact us for the Pay-Off the Mortgage form. Thank you in advance for your generous donation!

## CALENDAR

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### Meetings

**Sunday Worship Service:** Sunday, July 11 @ 10:00 am

**Sunday Together:** Sunday, July 11 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm **Immediately Following  
Worship Service**

**Finance Committee:** Sunday, July 11 @ 11:30am – 12:30 pm

**Monday Meditation:** Monday, July 12 @ 5:30 – 6:30 pm **In Person**

**Membership Committee:** Thursday, July 15 @ 5:30 – 6:30 pm

### Staying Connected

**(Reminder: July 20th is the last week that the Mid-Week Reminder will be sent out)**

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

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Plate Collections for July 4, 2021: \$207**

**SAVE THE DATE!  
UUCOD GARAGE SALE  
APRIL 2, 2022**

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It's never too early to start setting things aside for our annual garage sale! Perhaps you would like to set aside a box in the garage that you drop things in when you realize you have been holding on to too many things for too long.

Popular items: sports equipment, tools, collectibles, decorative/household items, bikes, small pieces of furniture (we do not have the ability to pick up items), books, CD's, toys, clothing (in good condition with no stains or rips).

If you are up to it please price items before putting them in your box. Blank price stickers are available at any drug stores or dollar stores. A good rule for pricing is 10% of original retail price. **Do not price clothing or books.** We will price those items for you. Of course, we will be happy to accept any unpriced items!

For additional information please contact: Jane Betts-Stover or Carol McLavoie.

Thank you!

## JULY 11th SHARE THE PLATE

### **Los Médicos Voladores del Sur de California aka The Flying Doctors of Southern California is our July 11th Share the Plate Recipient**

Almost twenty-five years ago, the first team of volunteer physicians, dentists, general volunteers and pilots flew into the Thermal airport to spend a full day offering free medical, dental, and optometry clinics to Eastern Coachella Valley's underserved, uninsured working poor. These teams became known as *Los Médicos Voladores del Sur de California*, which is Spanish for *The Flying Doctors of Southern California*. Since that momentous day, they have offered free high-quality medical, dental, optometry, and other healthcare clinics, treating thousands of patients who wouldn't be able to afford it with today's medical skyrocketing prices and would have gone without, putting their lives in grave jeopardy.

Their next free clinic will be Saturday, September 25 at Desert Mirage High School. Luz Moreno, President of Los Médicos Voladores SoCal, shared that at their 2019 clinic, they had more than 600 people attend, receiving more than 1200 services. With the COVID pandemic cancelling their 2020 clinic, she expects to see even more people attending this year. She notes that these are our "brothers, sisters, and children" who have been working on the frontlines in migrant farm communities for very low pay. For over two years they have had to do without any healthcare, which means their needs will be even more complicated.

On Sunday, July 11th please open your hearts and wallets to *Los Médicos Voladores del Sur de California* and give generously. Thank you.

## NEWS FROM THE CARE TEAM

Friends,

I hope you have gotten your Covid shots. That doesn't mean the rules have totally changed. Wear a mask and/or keep your distance if you are unsure of your environment and continue to wash your hands to be extra safe.

PLEASE reach out if you're not well, need a meal or just want someone with a caring heart to chat with for a while. We're YOUR Care Team. So PLEASE don't be shy. Your well-being is important to us.

Bryna Blum

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**Office Administrator Hours:** Pam is scheduled in the office the following days:

Monday-Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:30pm

Friday: 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

\*There are times she may be on errands. Please make an appointment to ensure she is in the office.

**Newsletter Deadlines:** The deadline for the Newsletter is always Wednesday morning. If you are going to be late, call or email Pam asking to reserve space. The newsletter is on the website by 3 pm, Fridays.

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*"To grow restless with who we are helps us move toward our ideals. Perfection is impossible, but we all have the potential to be more patient, more compassionate, more open-minded." - Stephen Shick (Unitarian Universalist, peace activist, reformer, clergy)*

**Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert**

72425 Via Vail - Rancho Mirage CA 92270 - (760) 321-0694

