

November 5th, 2021

## UUCOD WEEKLY REMINDER



## SERVICES (In-Person and via Zoom)

Worship Service/Sunday Together

**November 7, 2021**

**Our Pride Should be a Promise**

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

**Worship Associate:** Joni Paddock

All of us, and especially those of us part of the LGBTQI+ communities have much to be grateful for and proud of as we see the changes in our world over the past years. But our work is not done. How can we imagine together the needs of today's world? Whose pride—and safety and dignity—are we called to struggle for today?

**November 14, 2021**

**The Work of Justice, Change, and Love II: Beloved Conversations Among**

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

**Worship Associate:** Peter Mathews

We continue our exploration of the work of inclusion, belonging, and diversity we are doing in our community. This week join us for an introduction to the Beloved Conversations learning that many of our members have been doing and that our congregation will be exploring in this coming year.

**November 21, 2021**

**Thanksgiving: If You Have a Table Blessing**

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

**Worship Associate:** Bob Rancourt

As we prepare ourselves for gathering around a table in thanks, what is in our minds and hearts. Who do we carry with us as we feast and offer gratitude?

**November 28, 2021**

**The Earthiness of the Buddha-Dharma**

**Worship Leader:** Ian Challis

**Worship Associate:** Peter Mathews

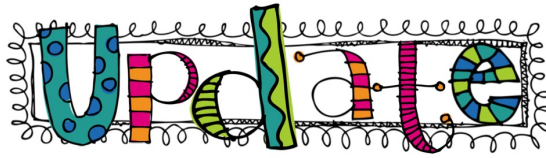
One of the most beautiful aspects of Buddhist teaching is the way we are invited to remember our deep interconnection to the planet and all life -- to honor and care for Earth

as our source, great teacher, and witness. Growth and freedom arise from deep knowing of this earthly experience.

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## COLLECTIONS BASKET

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### Covid-19 Update Sunday Services

Good news!

The board has decided to open Sunday Services up to fully vaccinated visitors. All of our protocols are still in place for all of those who decide to attend in person services. Let's keep everyone safe!

To attend:

- Everyone must show proof of full vaccination once.
- Everyone must wear a mask at all times when indoors.
- We ask you to please observe social distancing when indoors.
- No singing or coffee hour at this time.
- Please exit the building after services and enjoy socializing outdoors.
- Please attend on Zoom if you are sick.
- Please either wait two weeks to return to in-person service or receive a negative Covid test after you have been in a potentially higher-risk situation. Some examples include travel by plane, train or ship and/or being in a large (500+) indoor setting where vaccination status is unknown. We encourage you to use good judgment to help ensure the health of our congregation.

Remember zoom services are available for everyone.

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## CALENDAR

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### Meetings

**Live Auction:** Saturday, November 6 @ 5:45pm

**Sunday Worship Service:** Sunday, November 7 @ 10:00am

**Sunday Together:** Sunday, November 7 @ 11:00am - 12:00pm

**Work Party:** Monday, November 8 @ 9:00am - 10:00am

**Monday Meditation:** Monday, November 8 @ 5:30pm - 6:30pm In Person with masks

**Chalice Circle Facilitators Meeting:** Tuesday, November 9 @ 2:00pm

**Membership Committee:** Tuesday, November 9 @ 5:30pm

**Social Justice Meeting:** Thursday, November 11 @ 6:30pm

**Life Span Group:** Friday, November 12 @ 10:30am

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Collections for October 31st, 2021: \$607.66**



## Don't Forget!!

Daylight Savings time ends on November 7th be sure to "fall back" one hour!



## Our Cup Runneth Over!

It has come to our attention that we are packing so much wonderful information into our UUCOD Monthly and Weekly newsletters that some email programs like Gmail are not showing the newsletter all the way to the bottom. If you don't see info about Pam's office hours at the bottom of the newsletter display, look for a blue link to click to display entire message so that you won't miss Lifespan Learning, Social Justice and other articles that sometimes get caught "below the fold." Lots of people at UUCOD are doing great things they want you to know about, so please read our newsletters all the way to the end!



November is Native American Heritage Month and is a time to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories of Native People. It is also a time to acknowledge their important contributions and to raise awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present. This commemorative month also aims to provide a platform for Native people to express to their community their concerns and solutions for building bridges of understanding and friendship in their local area. We invite you to learn more about their culture, traditions, music, crafts, dance and other concepts of their lives that are featured online this month.



If you have information you want printed in the announcements that are included with the print version of the Order of Worship please send the information you would like included to Pam on Tuesdays by 12:00pm. Space is limited so submit your information as soon as possible.

# AUCTION UPDATES



## Join Us for an Evening of Fun!

The Silent Auction happens today, Friday, November 5th.

The Live Auction is tomorrow starting at 5:45pm on Zoom (see link below.)

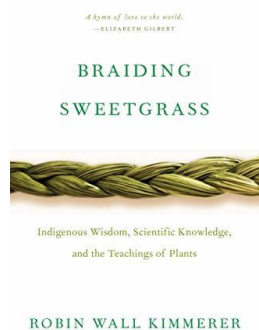
Hosted by Rob DuWors with Peter Mathews as the Auctioneer (also joining the fun is Hiroshi Yamaguchi). You won't want to miss this entertaining UUCOD event!

Winners will be emailed a bill by Tuesday with directions for how to pay.  
For questions about your bill email Fred Bloss.

Who Won What I Offered?

Donors will be emailed a list of who won their items by Sunday, November 14.  
For questions about who won your items contact Barb Storms.

## LIFE SPAN SPIRITUAL GROWTH



### Lifespan Book Club Discussion

Braiding Sweetgrass  
By Robin Wall Kimmerer

Join us in a discussion on  
Tuesday, November 30 @ 10 – 11:30 am  
Location TBD

Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, and as a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings—asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass—offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. In reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings will we be capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learn to give our own gifts in return.



### Lectio Divina: Contemplative Practices Facilitated by Rev Ian

Mon. Nov. 29, 1 - 3 p.m. in person  
and/or 7 - 9 p.m. on Zoom

Lectio Divina is the practice of reading scripture or other texts contemplatively in ways that offer discernment and perspective. We'll explore the history and method of this ancient practice and find ways to explore a variety of texts. This is the first of three offerings this year by Rev. Ian on different spiritual practices.

*Contemplative spiritual practices help us build space in our hearts and minds and offer us new ways to see ourselves and the world.*

# SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATES



## Food (and Now Clothing) on the First is Sunday, Nov. 7th

Bring your food & clothing to church for Galilee Center. They will distribute it to seniors & families in need in the Mecca area, and migrant farmworkers & asylum applicants staying at the overnight shelter.

### NON-EXPIRED FOOD NEEDED

corn masa flour like Maseca or Tortimasa  
bagged rice & dried pinto beans  
dry spaghetti & small pasta  
vegetable, canola, & corn oil  
canned chicken & tuna  
jars of peanut butter & jelly or jam  
canned fruits & vegetables  
jars & cans of tomato sauce & pasta sauce

### CLOTHING REALLY NEEDED NOW

children's clothing - sizes 2T - 14  
boys & mens pants & shirts - all sizes  
other items are welcome

On Nov. 7th, bring your donations to the church parking lot & put them in the open car trunk with the Food on the First sign.

### **Can't make it to church on Sundays?**

Bring them to the church M-F when it is open & put them in the *Food on the First* bin in the lobby.



## Socks on the Second is Sunday, Nov. 14th

Socks on the Second is a program of the Social Justice Committee whereby we collect new socks for women, men, & kids on the second Sunday of each month that you bring in. They will be delivered to *Well in the Desert* at one of their five lunchtime sites in Palm Springs and distributed to any person in need who comes in.

Can't make it to church on Nov. 14? We've got you covered. Simply drop them off in the brown bin in the lobby at UUCOD the next time you are there. Easy Peasy!

So the next time you are shopping, add socks to your cart then bring them to UUCOD the next time you are there.

A person in need will thank you.



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

Once again, we will soon Share the Plate with one of our favorite local organizations: SafeHouse of the Desert. Like last year, due to continuing Coronavirus restrictions, we will not be able to deliver our presents in person, but that won't prevent the youth & young adults from getting them. On Sunday, November 21, instead of buying their requested items, your generous Share the Plate donation will be used to purchase Target e-gift cards from our Scrip program, which they will use to buy their own presents.

Safehouse of the Desert, part of Operation SafeHouse, which has been doing its important work in our county for more than three decades, 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. One national runaway organization estimates that there are more than two million young people who run away annually! Some have been victims of human trafficking, especially in recent years, and have no place to go once they are picked up by police.

SafeHouse operates two shelters, one in Riverside and the other here, that provide approximately 600 runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth with over 4,000 bed nights annually. 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. Besides housing, it also provides on-site schooling, including GED classes, individual cognitive behavioral therapy, group counseling, financial education, employment assistance, and life skills. SafeHouse’s transitional living programs serve approximately 40 youth and their children (yes—their children) annually.

Your donation will provide a happier holiday for these youth and young adults who have literally nowhere to go and need everything. Please give as generously as you are able. For more information, please contact Bob Rancourt.



### **COACHELLA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM'S CHRISTMAS PARTY FOOD BASKET & TOY DRIVE**

The Social Justice Committee is thrilled to announce that UUCOD will be participating in CVUSD's Migrant Education Program's Christmas Party Food Basket & Toy Drive. This much-loved program helps our migrant families who live in the East Valley have a more joyful Christmas. Due to Coronavirus and the need to practice social distancing, migrant families will have a Caravan Christmas Party. Plated dinners, a box of food and toys for the children will be given to each family member in their car upon their arrival at the Migrant Education Center.



#### **Toy Drive**

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. Currently, there are 1,650 migrant children & youth in kindergarten through grade 12 within CVUSD. For most of them, if it wasn't for our generosity, they would simply not receive anything at Christmas.

Toy Drive Donations



#### **Food Basket Drive**

Each day in November until Thanksgiving, please add the unexpired item listed to a box. On December 3, bring the completely filled box to UUCOD between 3-6 pm. A Lowe’s small packing box is perfect and only costs \$1.10.

We'll deliver it to CVUSD's Migrant Education Program before their Christmas Party. Email [Joni Paddock](mailto:Joni.Paddock@cvusd.net) for details & to sign up.

November 1 - Box of Cereal  
November 2 - Peanut Butter  
November 3 - Cooking Oils (corn, canola, vegetable)  
November 4 - Flour (corn-masa harina or all-purpose 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)

If you would rather someone from our team assemble and fill the box for you, please contact Joni Paddock. *The cost of a box filled with all the items is \$55.*

Food Drive Donations

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## Script2Stage2Screen Updates

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### **SCRIPT2STAGE2SCREEN PRESENTS THE NEW DRAMA “CRYING ON TRAINS” IN DECEMBER**

Script2Stage2Screen, which reopened on October 23 to a full house, will present its second performance of the season on Dec. 3 and 4, 2021.

“Crying on Trains,” by David Hanson of New Jersey.

“Our next show is about living, loving and coping with life’s challenges,” said Steve Fisher, Script2Stage2Screen’s artistic director. “Two unlikely companions travel life’s tough, yet rewarding, journey together. We’re proud to have Chet Cole directing the play. He is an experienced actor and director, who also happens to be an award-winning teacher.”

Fisher also said: “I want to send a special ‘thank you’ to all patrons who have responded to our COVID precautions without a complaint. We have done our best to create a safe environment for everyone and will continue to do so.”

Script2Stage2Screen is the performing arts project of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert (UUCOD), 72425 Via Vail in Rancho Mirage. All staged readings take place at UUCOD at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

### **COVID PREVENTION POLICIES**

Script2Stage2Screen is following the Church's policies on preventing the spread of COVID.

Script2Stage2Screen:

1. Is requiring proof of **full** vaccination to attend its performances. All cast and crew will be fully vaccinated, and wear masks except when acting.
2. Is asking patrons to register in advance and provide contact information, in order to perform contact tracing if needed.
3. Is requiring attendees to wear masks.
4. Is setting up seating to allow social distancing.
5. Is requiring ticket purchases or RSVPs in advance ([www.script2stage2screen.com](http://www.script2stage2screen.com)).
6. Is offering refreshments outdoors in front of the church; to be consumed outside.

The remainder of the group's season:

"I'm Not Rick Springfield," a comedy by Vicki Vodrey (Kansas), to be performed Friday and Saturday, Jan. 21 and 22, 2022.

"A Night in Puglia," a drama by David M. Wolgin (Rancho Mirage), to be performed Friday and Saturday, February 25 and 26, 2022.

"Inez's Birthday...and Then Some," a comedy by Jason Hull (Palm Springs), to be performed Friday and Saturday, April 22 and 23, 2022.

Script2Stage2Screen is an innovative performing arts organization for the development of original productions on the stage. Formed in 2010 by a small group of playwrights, S2S2S started as a vehicle to premiere original plays. Since then, it has developed into a diverse performing arts organization in the Coachella Valley with the mission of highlighting social justice, families, sexual equality, the dignity of humankind, and the joy and humor of life. [www.script2stage2screen.com](http://www.script2stage2screen.com)

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## NEWS FROM THE CARE TEAM

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### What is "Caring?"

It is looking out for the others in your community,

Please step up to support the Care Team. It needs "Kitchen Angels" (Cooks and bakers) and those willing to drive when needed.

If that might be a fit for you, please contact me at the number below.

Bryna Blum

Care Team Chair

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### Save The Dates for the UU Regional Assembly

Save the dates: *Reflect, Rejoice, Renew*, PWR Assembly, Friday, February 4 through Sunday February 6, 2022. This is a Regional Assembly held virtually and on site in San Diego, CA. More information to come on this great opportunity to participate in our Regional Assembly.

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**Pam's Hours:**



Monday-Thursday: 9:15 am - 2:00 pm

Friday: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

(Please note Pam may be on errands during office hours so please call 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, please call or email Pam asking to reserve space. The newsletter will be posted on the website by 3pm on Friday.

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## December Newsletter Reminder

Just a quick reminder that I will need your December Newsletter articles by 10:00am on November 22nd. The monthly newsletter takes more time to build and it is a short week with Thanksgiving on 11/25. I will be scheduling the December Newsletter on 11/24 to be emailed on 11/26. Just a note that I will be out of town after 11/26 so it is important to get me those articles on time!

Thanks so much!

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"When all Americans are treated as equal, no matter who they are or whom they love, we are all more free."

Barack Obama

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[Visit our website](#)

*Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert*  
72425 Via Vail - Rancho Mirage CA 92270 - (760) 321-0694

