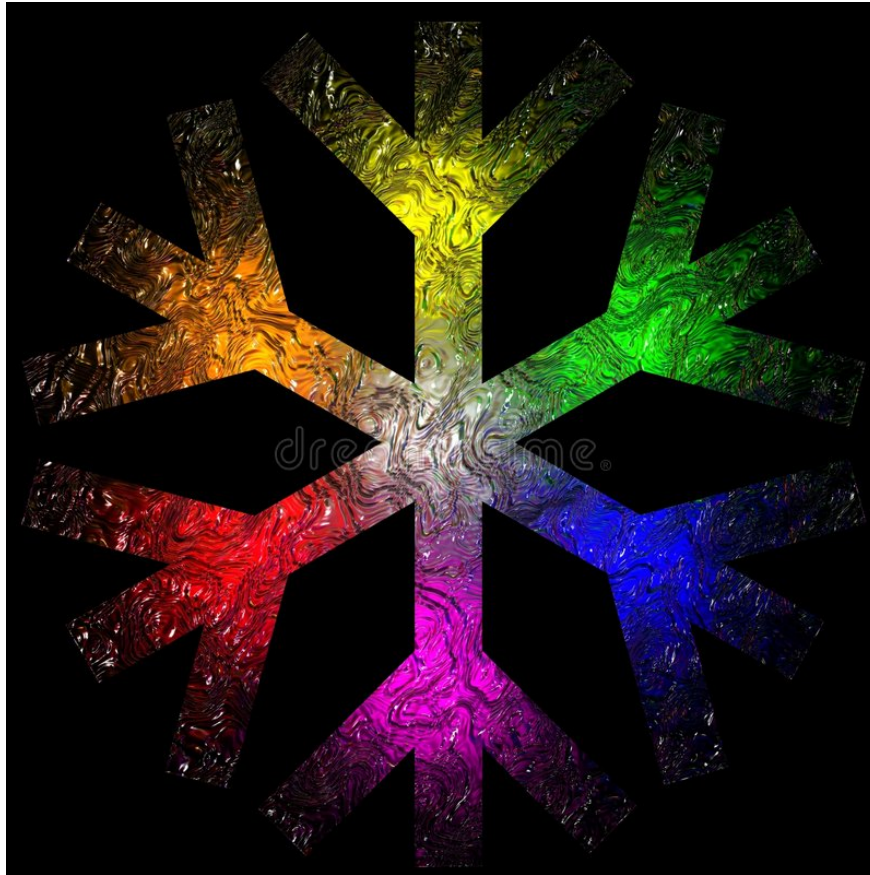


UUCOD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 14, 2022



SERVICES

Worship Service/Sunday Together

January 16, 2022

In Ourselves and In Our Institutions: The 8th Principle

Worship Leader: Rev. Ian W. Riddell

Worship Associate: Sarita Gonzales

Our congregation is beginning the work of engaging with an eighth Unitarian Universalist principle. Why is it important for us to affirm and promote justice and commit to the building of beloved community? How might we be different as individuals and as a community if we made this commitment out loud? Please join Rev Ian and others immediately following the service for further discussion about the sermon and 8th Principle.

January 23, 2022

Ministry for the Earth, Part Two: “Aldo Leopold and the Ethics of the Land”

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Donald Stouder

Worship Associate: Joni Paddock

Rev. Don will be joining us on January 2 and January 23, 2022 to present a series of sermons addressing different themes in climate change and climate justice. His sermons will be built around one overarching theme: that our 7th principle has to be urgently embraced, and that we will never get a break to build a better world. We have to do it while still surviving in this one.

January 30, 2022

A Commitment to Generosity

Worship Leader: Rev. Ian W. Riddell

Worship Associate: Betty Bender

Our community thrives because we practice generosity. We bring our hearts and minds and hands to the work of nurturing our community and sharing our vision. Join us as we reflect on generosity.

Collections Basket

An Updated Announcement from Your COVID Team



Your Board of Trustees and your COVID Response team are continuing to pay attention to our congregation's health during the ongoing pandemic. Omicron is clearly hitting a sharp peak, amplified by holiday gatherings. But the peak is also expected to pass through very quickly. **Sunday Worship services for the next 2-4 weeks will only be on Zoom, not in-person, as we let the peak pass.** For non-worship activities we advise group leaders to suspend in-person indoor activities during the same 2-4 weeks.

It appears that an intense Omicron peak may be followed by reduced Covid risk. We are quite optimistic that after this short pause we will be able to resume in-person services and perhaps coffee hour and maybe even singing! There is light at the end of the tunnel!

The 8th Principle - What is it and Should UUCOD Adopt it?



The proposed 8th Principle for all Unitarian Universalists reads:

"We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountability dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."

Rev. Ian will be preaching on the 8th Principle this Sunday, January 16, 2022.

PLEASE JOIN US following this service on Zoom for further discussion with Rev Ian and 8th Principle Ambassadors about the 8th Principle, to ask questions, and imagine what it could mean for our congregation.

For more information contact Sandy Sladen or Hiroshi Yamaguchi.

Staying Connected

Sunday Service: Sunday, January 16 @ 10:00am

Share the Plate: Sunday, January 16 @ 10:00am

Sunday Together: Sunday, January 16 @ 11:00am

Chalice Circle: Sunday, January 16 @ 2:00pm

Work Party: Monday, January 17 @ 9:00am
Rev. Ian's Life Span Class: Monday, January 17 @ 2:00pm
Board of Director's Meeting Tuesday, January 18 @ 5:00pm
Chalice Circle: Wednesday, January 19 @ 1:30pm
BIOPOC Meeting: Wednesday, January 19 @ 4:30
Rev. Ian's Life Span Class: Thursday, January 20 @ 6:30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plate Collections for January 9, 2022: \$119.27



**Start the Pledge Drive with a BASH -
a Zoom BINGO BASH!**

Saturday, January 29th from 6:00pm-7:30pm

Everyone is invited! There is no charge to participate. A Zoom link will be sent out the Wednesday prior to the Bash.

To ensure you receive your bingo card pre-registration is required. Register either through the link below, in the church foyer or by contacting Carol Lavoie.

If you are out of town and would like to participate please register before 1/17/22 so we have time to mail your bingo card to you.

Once you have registered Bingo cards can be picked up on foyer table between 10:00am and 1:00pm Monday through Friday. Cards may also be picked up on Saturday, January 22 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm in the church parking lot.

Please email Carol Lavoie with questions or to register.

[Bingo Bash Registration](#)



Volunteers Needed!!

**We Need Members and Friends to Contribute Their
Time and Talents for the Facilities Committee**

We need volunteers in the following areas:

- Facilities helps maintain the readiness, functionality and appearance of our building and grounds.
- Assists in maintaining the appearance of our sacred grounds with a weekly work party.
- Assists with Sunday facilities upkeep, including making sure supplies are in stock and replaced, as needed.

- The Production and Audio-Visual Team provides support for Sunday Services.
- Promotes community, enjoyment, and fellowship while supporting our mission with a comfortable harbor for all.

For more information or to volunteer please contact: Mel Wilkinson.

Voting Rights and Build Back Better



We continue to watch for further developments on the **Freedom to Vote Act** and the **John Lewis Voting Rights Amendment Act**. Support for these will be needed in January as Congress reconvenes. These bills would set minimum standards nationwide for access to voting and securing voting systems so that all lawfully-cast votes are counted. We are also watching to see what the final form will be of the Build Back Better package of budget reconciliation legislation designed to support workers, families, seniors and more. Please watch this space in the coming weeks for ways you can take action to strengthen the democratic process and to support legislation that will respect the inherent worth and dignity of all persons by providing needed support to health care coverage, child care services and more.



Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

More UUCOD news than your electronic device can display at once! If you don't see Pam's office hours at the bottom of the newsletter, look for a [blue link](#) at the bottom to click to display all the goodies we have to tell you about! Don't miss the news "below the fold" on activities led by Rev. Ian or by UUCOD leaders like yourselves, Lifespan Learning opportunities, book study offerings, and Social Justice news and service opportunities. Some activities are held in-person and some by Zoom. It's amazing how much our UUCOD member volunteers are up to throughout the week! Find out what's up. You may find something that piques your interest. Please read our stirring newsletters to the end!



Women's Night Will Now Be Held On February 14, 2021

Due to the fact that Riverside County is back into the purple tier as a result of the omicron variant, most ladies who had RSVP'd to the WNO for January 10 agreed that we should cancel it for January. At this time, we're planning to go to Back Street Bistro on El Paseo on February 14. If you have any questions, please call or email Joni.

LIFE SPAN SPIRITUAL GROWTH



Explore Unitarian Universalist Worship with Rev. Ian

A three-session class exploring Unitarian Universalist worship. What is it? Why do we do it? How can we deepen our experience to broaden our appreciation? How can we make it accessible and powerful for everyone?

Instructor: Rev. Ian

All Classes will be now held via Zoom:

Mondays: January 17 and 24 from 2:00pm-4:00pm
 Thursdays: January 20 and 27 from 6:30pm-8:30pm

Materials Needed: notebook and things which you can use to write and draw.
Hymn book and other resources will be provided.

If you have any questions please contact: Carol Lavoie



Claiming Our Spiritual Leadership

Spiritual Leadership is not reserved for religious professionals or lay leaders. Learn how soulful engagement with your faith can help shift a congregational culture. This is less about the business of the church and more about the transformative power of communities living their values that challenge dominant culture with and beyond our congregation.

This online class consists of 7 sessions followed by discussion. Classes will run between 1 1/2 to 2 hours.

Classes will be held via Zoom starting at 1:30 on the following Sundays:

January 30
February 6 & 27
March 6 & 27
April 3 & 24.

Facilitators: Jane Zaun and LeGrand Velez

Minimum attendees-4
Maximum attendees-8

For more information contact Carol Lavoie.

SOCIAL JUSTICE



Martha's Village & Kitchen is January's Share the Plate Recipient

On January 16 we will be Sharing the Plate with Martha's Village & Kitchen located in Indio, CA.

As per their website:

"Martha's Village & Kitchen is one of the largest providers of homeless services in the Coachella Valley and Riverside County. The organization began in 1990 when the founders served meals to their homeless neighbors. Today, from its campus in Indio, CA, Martha's Village offers unique life-changing programs based on the nationally-recognized "continuum of care model" breaking the cycle of homelessness.

Through this gateway to hope, people regain their lives becoming responsible, self-sufficient and productive citizens while passing on their newfound independence and life skills to their children and families. Changing one person's life, changes generations of lives."

George Sinatra, their Senior Director of Development, will join us during the service to tell us more about their vision, mission and services. He will also be available afterwards to answer any additional questions.

We hope you will support this organization as generously as you can.

CARE TEAM NEWS



Dear Friends,

These days can be difficult. Be kind of yourself and practice self care. Please reach out if you're not well, need a meal or just want someone to talk to through out the week.

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

Bryna Blum



Script2Stage2Screen 2021-22 Season

Script2Stage2Screen's Executive Committee, directors, actors and fans are excited that the group will return to UUCOD for its 2021-22 season. "It has been so long...and we're so appreciative of our partnership with the Church for more than 10 years," said Dori Smith, an S2S2S Executive Committee member.

Here is the planned 2021-22 season:

January Show has been rescheduled for May 20-21, 2022.

February 25-26, 2022: "A Night in Puglia," by David M. Wolgin. A love story for the ages and all orientations. Sensual and sweet, and set in Italy.

April 22-23, 2022: "Inez's Birthday...and Then Some," by Jason Hull. A family curse, a pompous minister, a gay nephew, a redneck brother, a case of gout, and Loretta Lynn. What could possibly go wrong?

SCRIPT2STAGE2SCREEN POSTPONES "I'M NOT RICK SPRINGFIELD" TO MAY 2022

Rancho Mirage, CA, Jan. 12, 2022 – Script2Stage2Screen (S2S2S), which performs staged readings of new works, has postponed its January 2022 production of "I'm not Rick Springfield." Because of concerns related to Omicron, the production – originally scheduled for Jan. 21 and 22 – has been moved to Friday and Saturday, May 20 and 21, 2022.

Artistic Director Steve Fisher said that S2S2S plans to stage "A Night in Puglia," by local playwright David Wolgin, as scheduled, on February 25 and 26, 2022.

Script2Stage2Screen is notifying its patrons and early ticket buyers about the postponement. Money will be refunded, or tickets will be held for patrons for a future show. And the company's Website will soon be updated with a revised performance schedule. 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.

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

Office Administrator Hours:

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

Friday: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

***Friday, 1/21: 9:00am-12:00pm**

(There are times Pam may be on errands. Please call first to ensure she is in the office.)

Newsletter Deadlines: The deadline for the Newsletter is always Wednesday morning **before 12:00pm**. If you are going to be late please call or email Pam at admin@uucod.org asking to reserve space. The newsletter will be on the website and emailed by Friday at 3:00pm.

“We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

[Visit our website](#)

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

