

THE REACH

OCUUC'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ORANGE COAST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



SUNDAY SERVICES IN JUNE 2022

Please note that given the changing nature of the world, topics may change to address the needs of our times. Below are the topics being considered currently.

June 5: How to be a Blessing

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

June 12: Flower Communion

Revs. Sian Wiltshire &
Karen Magoon- Pearson

June 19: Blessed are the...what?

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

June 26: The Blessings of Agnosticism, Humanism and Atheism

Randy Kokal with
Lysa Denk and Don Hart

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Nancy Loughrey, President, Board of Trustees

May completed our onsite Ukrainian Refugee program. Everyone who is not with their sponsor has moved to a dormitory in Los Angeles, and our two-story building is almost empty again. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you who donated items, made meals and grocery runs, did onsite stays, drove, and made it all happen. I have been so impressed by all the volunteer response and compassion. We are awesome!

The Annual Meeting is upon us. I hope to see each of you June 12th fifteen minutes after the service, whether on Zoom or in person. It is our greatest exercise in democracy, and it will determine how the Board will operate for our next fiscal year. Elections and budget approval are always part of the agenda. This year we also have a Bylaw Revision to clarify the need for staggered terms.

The Board approved Matthew Patterson and myself to be two of our three designated delegates to the General Assembly (GA) <https://www.uua.org/ga> at its May meeting, but there is still one spot open. General Assembly is our annual gathering of all Unitarian Universalist congregations. This year it is hybrid with the onsite portion in Portland, Oregon on June 22nd to 26th. If you are a member and would be interested in voting on the Association's business and stands on various issues, please contact me at president@ocuuc.org.

Thank you, thank you, to everyone who makes our congregation happen!

Nancy Loughrey

ORANGE COAST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



Many Different Beliefs,
One Loving Community



JOIN FOR OUR SERVICES
SUNDAYS AT 10:30

<https://zoom.us/j/3931579606>

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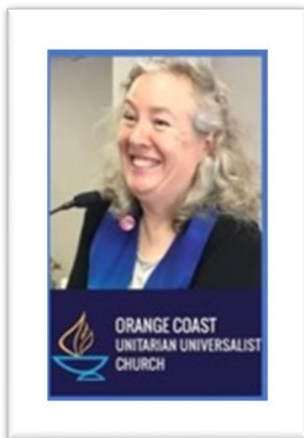
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Years ago, I read a book called *"The Carmina Gaedlica."* It's a collection of Celtic Christian prayers, enchantments and blessings from the 19th Century from the Outer Hebrides of the Scottish Isles, a place that had preserved much of its original pagan roots. When you read the prayers and poems (and, yes, spells/enchantments!) you can tell they are unique immediately; they were all once from the druidic/pagan tradition. When Christianity came along, they just added in Jesus and Mary.

What I loved about this book was how there was a blessing for everything – from



lighting the fire, to milking the cow, to harvesting the wheat. There were big rituals of blessing and smaller ones; but everything was seen in that light. It got me thinking: What might our

days be like if we greeted each day, and each person, as if they were a blessing?

I invite you this month to wake each morning and find something that feels like a blessing – even if it is to turn on the coffee maker, feed the cat/dog or snuggle under the covers.

With love,
Rev. Sian



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH 11:45AM

Pursuant to the Bylaws, the OCUUC Board calls for The Annual Meeting of the Congregation to convene in Daniels Hall and on Zoom Video Conferencing at 11:45am.

Come participate in the democratic process at your church as we vote on the budget, a slate of officers, Bylaws revisions, present awards and more.

Zoom Video Conferencing via <https://zoom.us/j/3931579606>. Meeting will be recorded. Anyone is welcome to attend, only Members vote. If you require assistance, please email admin@ocuuc.org.

The proposed Budget and Bylaws Revisions will be available soon on the OCUUC website, as well as the Annual Reports booklet and Minutes of the 2021 Annual Congregational Meeting.





Wear Orange to remember lives lost to gun violence and to raise awareness about this public health crisis. Rally after church at the corner of Mesa Verde Dr. E. and Adams Ave. on Sunday, June 5th 12:00pm - 1:00pm.

On signs for the rally, please do not use the term Gun Control. (Co-opted by the NRA) Please use: Gun Violence Prevention, End Gun Violence, Sensible Gun Laws, and Gun Safety.

<https://wearorange.org/>

If you have questions, please reach out to hello@ocuuc.org.



Please note that given the changing nature of the world, topics may change to address the needs of our times. These are topics currently being considered:

June 5: How to be a Blessing. We often talk about being blessed – whether it’s our health or our wealth – but how do we learn to be a blessing to others? Rev. Sian

June 12: Flower Communion. It’s that wonderful time of year, where we celebrate the blessings of this community! Come join this multigenerational service with Rev. Sian and Karen Magoon-Pearson. *Note: after the service is our Annual Meeting.*

June 19: Blessed are the... what? In the sermon on the mount, Jesus calls the poor, meek, the hungry “blessed.” What in the world could he mean? Is suffering supposed to be good? Rev. Sian

June 26: The Blessings of Agnosticism, Humanism and Atheism. Come hear how the participants in the Agnostic, Humanist, and Atheist group (AHA) have found blessings in this community and their philosophies. Randy Kokal with Lysa Denk and Don Hart.



I hope that you are as hungry for live music as I am! Our August will be filled with three live musical experiences for our OC-UUC family. Please mark your calendars and plan to come out for three fun evenings!

Have you heard Spencer LaJoye's "Plowshare Prayer" yet?

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MhOZv5i7CHY>)

It was going around the UU circles on social media for a while, plus we sang it at church a few weeks ago. Well, Spencer LaJoye is going to be on tour and OCUUC will be hosting them plus their friend Ben Grace on Thursday, August 4 at 7pm for an outdoor concert. Spencer is from Boston and Ben is from San

Diego, where they will also be performing. You'll hear Spencer sing "Plowshare Prayer" with backup vocals by Orange Coast Choir. Spencer's an amazing songwriter and I've loved everything I've heard from them. Check out their YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVj4OLNnvFw>).

Later in August, we will be hosting parodist, Roy Zimmerman, for another concert at OCUUC. He's a favorite touring artist who writes timely and relevant parodies about current events with a UU point of view. Keep an eye on the calendar for this date.

And finally, our annual **Music Under the Stars** will be held on Saturday, August 20, at 7pm in the courtyard. Our own musicians will entertain and enthrall you with their dulcet tones, provocative songs, and even some snackage.

August will be here before we know, but until then, please take every opportunity you can to sing together, support local artists, and enjoy live music all around you.

Musically Yours,

Beth Syverson, Director of Music Ministries
MusicDirector@ocuuc.org



JOYS AND SORROWS ON SUNDAY

If you would like to express a Joy or Sorrow to be read during the service on Sunday, you may send an email by 9:00 am on Sunday morning to joysandsorrows@ocuuc.org, type in the chat during this part of the service, or, when attending the service in person, you may write your joy or sorrow for in-person share.



FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

If you would like to sign-up for flowers for onsite services, please contact **Jamie Pendarvis** or email jpendarvis@mac.com. For services onsite, you can bring your own flowers, or we can purchase them for you at a cost of \$25 cash prepaid.



It was just last year at this time that we were venturing back to our site for the first time in over a year. It has been a roller coaster, as we had to reclose twice for variant threats. At this time, however, we are pleased that, although the case counts are rising, hospitalizations are barely budging. We learned from our survey in March that people are willing to continue to wear masks if necessary to keep our children safe and keep singing. We relaxed the mask requirement in Daniels Hall at the Spring Auction and found that a substantial majority were comfortable without their masks. Hopefully our youngest children will be eligible for vaccinations soon.

For these reasons, we are going to further relax our guidelines. Effective June 19th

once the choir is on its summer hiatus, the guidelines will be:

- Daniels Hall on Sunday mornings - Masks optional once the children leave for their classes.
- Religious Education and Administration building Sunday Mornings - Masks required
- All other times and spaces - Masks optional

We will continue to run the fans in Daniels Hall for good ventilation. The speaker/singer screens are down, and we will be adding back the extra row of seats in Daniels Hall that were removed when we reopened. We are even investigating going back to ceramic coffee cups to lessen our impact on the earth!

Some things will stay indefinitely:

- Please stay home if you are feeling unwell.
- Please let our Congregation Nurse know if you test positive for COVID.
- Placing the offertory plate outside the doors instead of passing them.

As always, please speak with any member of the Task Force if you have questions or concerns. We will continue to monitor the Orange County statistics and will meet again in August.

Returning to Onsite Task Force

Nancy Loughrey
Rev. Sian Wiltshire
Marilyn Giss
Karen Magoon-Pearson
Beth Syverson
Meg Wilson



Anticipated closure of the 405 Freeway is to occur as early as 8 pm on Saturday, June 4th, to 11:30 am on Sunday, June 5th. This is to pour concrete for a new Express Lanes connector.

Also, there is an anticipated closure of the southbound 405 loop on-ramp from Harbor Blvd. for approximately one month to accommodate freeway widening. This closure started on Monday, May 23rd. You may want to include this information in your travel plans to Church if needed / applicable.

Falls prevention



is for everybody

FALL PREVENTION WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH

9:30AM - 12NOON

Don't forget to sign up for the **Fall Prevention Program** right here at OCUUC. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn how to prevent falls, what to do and how to get up if you do fall, and physical activities that support and maintain better health. We'll meet in Daniels Hall

from 9:30am to 12 noon. Please join us for the great opportunity.

This program is being offered by Jane Herin, RN, Faith Community Nurse with Hoag Health Ministry Program.

Please RSVP to Marilyn Giss, RN, Faith Community Nurse at nurse@ocuuc.org or call (714) 478-7706 if you are planning to attend. This is also open to the community so please respond no later than Thursday, June 2nd.

Contact Marilyn if you have any questions.



Agnostics, Humanists, Atheists

Sunday, June 5, 12:15 pm on Zoom...

Find the Zoom meeting link on our website [calendar page](#).



STITCHWITS

Do you knit, crochet, sew, or enjoy any other crafts? Do you believe in using your skills to help others? Then you might be a StitchWit!

Stitchwits meet on Zoom every Saturday from 10:30am to 12:30pm and are knitting, crocheting, or sewing items for Stand Up for Kids.

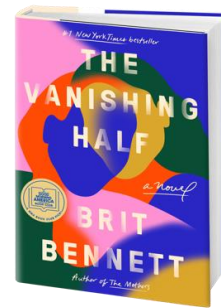
Find the zoom link on the [calendar page](#) of our website or contact Barbara Schilling at 949/285-0918 or harper0117@gmail.com.



MEDITATION GROUP

Our OCUUC Meditation Group meets every Sunday at 9:45am in the Youth Room and via Zoom. Meditation and mindfulness practice are so important for our well-being! Please join our community. We will conduct a short but nourishing guided meditation, then share our experiences along the path. All are welcome!

Find the zoom link on the OCUUC website calendar page by clicking [here!](#)



FICTION BOOK GROUP

The OCUUC Fiction Book Group will meet Monday, June 6th at 7:00pm online to discuss *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett.

At this meeting we will also finalize our selections for the following year. All are welcome to join us and be part of our lively discussions. Find the zoom link for the meeting on our [website](#).

Co-chairs: Eva Goodwin-Noriega and Marcia Hackett





Wednesday, June 1

Choir Rehearsal, 6:30pm Daniels Hall and Zoom

Friday, June 3

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, June 4

Fall Prevention Workshop, 9:30am Daniels Hall

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, June 5

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom

RE and Youth Group, 10:30am onsite

Wear Orange Rally, 12:00pm Corner of Mesa Verde Drive East & Adams Ave.

AHA Group, 12:15 pm on Zoom

Monday, June 6

OCUUC Fiction Book Group 7:00pm on Zoom

Sum of Us Discussion Group 7:00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, June 8

Comm. On Ministry, 6pm

Thursday, June 9

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm Daniels Hall and Zoom

Friday, June 10

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, June 11

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, June 12

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom

Worship Service **Flower Communion**, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom

RE and Youth Group, 10:30am onsite

Annual Congregational Meeting
11:45am Daniels Hall

Board Dinner, 5:30pm TBD

Friday, June 17

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, June 18

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, June 19

Father's Day

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom

RE and Youth Group, 10:30am onsite

Nonfiction Book Club, 12:30pm on Zoom

Tuesday, June 21

Caring Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, June 22

Actionable Anti-racism Group 1pm on Zoom

Friday, June 24

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, June 25

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, June 26

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom

RE and Youth Group, 10:30am onsite

Women's Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom





ZOOM SOCIAL HOUR!

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 10, 17, 24

5:30PM - 7:30PM (ON ZOOM)

Join us for Social Hour! Bring your own drinks and snacks. Drop in anytime between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm. Find the meeting ID on our website [calendar](#).



UU The Vote Legacy Fellowship

UU the Vote is sponsoring a six-month fellowship (July through November) to be awarded to six to eight people who are both Young Adults (18-35) and People of Color.

The purpose is to carry on the legacy of activism and organizing that embody our faith through justice organizing and activism. Awardees will receive \$5,000 plus up to \$1,500 in expenses. If you are interested, there is an information session June 7.

For more information about tracks and application criteria, visit www.uuthe-vote.org/legacy-fellowship-program.



SANDY HOOK PROMISE'S intent is to honor all victims of gun violence by turning their tragedy into a moment of transformation. By empowering youth to "know the signs" and uniting all people who value the protection of children, they take meaningful actions in schools, homes, and communities to prevent gun violence and stop the tragic loss of life www.sandyhookpromise.org.

Although we normally support local charities, many of our members have been working to prevent gun violence for many years. We are departing from this policy in light of recent tragedies.



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