

THE REACH

OCUUC'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ORANGE COAST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



SUNDAY SERVICES IN JULY 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.

July 3: The Boys of Decades Ago

Lawrence Ingalls

July 10: The Kendi Anti-racism Group

Nancy Loughrey, Nina Smith, Carolina Tercero Brandon, Phyllis Daniel

July 17: Livin' On a Prayer

Rev. Liz Murphy

July 24: What if Love Actually is 'All We Really Need'?

Rev. Dr. Karen Stoyanoff

July 31: Universe-All? Ultra-Universalism and Today

KC Pandel

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Nancy Loughrey, President, Board of Trustees

I am looking forward to a new church year! As grateful as I am to the work of last year's Board, I anticipate another great year with our new Board. Thank you to all who serve.

On July 10, a group of us are leading the Sunday Service to share our recent experiences with racism and anti-racism. It has been a transformative journey for many of us, and we understand we are on a very long path. In addition to sharing our experiences, we want to offer some opportunities for others to join the conversation. The purpose of this service is to interest many of you in becoming engaged in this work.

A provocative topic deserves opportunities for feedback. We would like to offer several feedback sessions the following week which we hope everyone will choose to attend. The purpose is to hear your comments on the issues raised in the service and what programming you may like to see.

The proposed sessions are scheduled for

- Monday, July 11, 4 pm - zoom
- Tuesday, July 12, 7pm - zoom
- Wednesday, July 13, 7pm - onsite
- Thursday, July 14, 1pm - zoom

Sign-up sheets will be available onsite after the service, in the chat for Zoomers, and by email for others. Please plan to attend.

ORANGE COAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Many Different Beliefs,
One Loving Community



JOIN FOR OUR SERVICES
SUNDAYS AT 10:30

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

Many Different Beliefs,
One Loving Community

2845 Mesa Verde Drive East
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-556-2882

P.O. Box 3770
Costa Mesa, CA 92628
ocuuc.org

I am currently in Maine with Tom as we care for his mother while his sister has some time away. We all came down with COVID within a few days of arrival. Thankfully, we seem to be recovering safely. I am grateful for vaccinations and boosters! I will be back in town, airlines willing, on July 6th. See you soon!

Nancy Loughrey



Rev. Sian was out of the office last week at General Assembly and is on vacation now for the month of July. She will be returning August 2nd.

For any pastoral emergencies, please contact Laurie Kluge at 714-337-4833 and she can get in touch with Rev. Sian.

For non-emergencies, you can write to: pastoralcare@ocuuc.org or contact Laurie.



4th Annual Orange Coast Wild & Scenic Film Festival
Saturday, September 24, 2022
Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church

PRODUCERS BEN KALINA AND AMANDA LIPP TO ATTEND FALL ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL IN COSTA MESA

The 4th Annual Orange Coast Wild & Scenic Film Festival is proud to announce that award-winning documentary producers and directors Ben Kalina and Amanda Lipp will attend (in person) the festival on Saturday, September 24.

The Festival will feature a matinee screening at 2 p.m. and also an evening screening at 6 p.m. at the O.C. Unitarian Universalist Church campus at 2845 Mesa Verde Drive East in Costa Mesa. Tickets will go on sale later in the summer.

Ben Kalina's work explores the colliding forces of human nature and environmental change. His most recent film, *A River Reborn*, is one of the featured documentaries in this year's Festival lineup of 10 short films. Following the screening of his film, Kalina will talk about the making of *A River Reborn* and will be available for Q & A.

Amanda Lipp's documentaries focus on mental health and social impact storytelling. Her festival film *ReBuilding Butte* follows a heartfelt tiny house building project in response to the deadliest fire in California history—the 2018 Camp Fire—that destroyed Paradise and surrounding Butte County communities. The story follows Alyssa Nolan, a local resident and mother of three, who learned how to build tiny homes by watching YouTube videos. The tiny home build site became a place for recovery and community. Alyssa, who continues her work as head of the Tiny Home Foundation, will also be

attending the festival in September. Both Amanda and Alyssa will talk about the film and will be available for Q & A.

The 4th Annual Orange Coast Wild & Scenic Film Festival is one of more than 150 "On Tour" events held throughout the United States and the only one of its kind in Orange County. The Nevada City, California-based flagship Wild & Scenic Film Festival, a five-day event held annually in January, partners with local groups seeking to inspire environmental activism and a love for nature through film.

The Orange Coast festival is staffed by a team of 30 Orange County-based activist-volunteers based at the Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church. For sponsorship information, contact: lindaspery@gmail.com.



OCUUC PROGRAMS

Thank you for electing me your new VP for Programs. My responsibilities include social events, small groups and various one-time or recurring programs.

During the summer, I will be primarily focusing on social events since we are just getting used to being together again after so many months of not seeing each other in person.

To celebrate the summer, let's begin with **Concerts in the Park**. Come to Fairview Park (2525 Placentia Ave, Costa Mesa) on **Tuesdays, July 12, 19 and 26** for outdoor music and camaraderie.

In the past there have been food carts and information booths about city services, but the city has not been very good about giving out information, so bring your own snacks and chairs or blankets to sit on.

The music will begin around 6 PM.

If I discover which family-friendly band will be there, I will let you know. Otherwise, it will be a surprise.

If you have ideas about programs you would like to see at OCUUC, please let me know. I will help you get on the schedule and get your event up and running.

Judith Stamper

programs@ocuuc.org

FORMING FAITH

Religious Education News
Karen Magoon Pearson
Director of Religious Education

The school year and church year are winding down, and we are preparing for summer. The Youth Group will be taking a break over the summer (perhaps with 1 or 2 special events), and PreK-7th grade will be combined for our summer program. We'll be using the *Magic Summer* curriculum from *Soul Matters*. This program is based on three magic "S's" that are what we, as a faith community, need to provide our children and our families to find the magic to connect to our deepest inner lives, our community, and to the joy of life around us. The three magic "S's" are:

- Service to Others
- Silence and Mindfulness
- Sunshine and Movement

Service to Others. Helping others is a magic antidote to the isolation, worry and sense of loss children may have experienced during COVID, as well as the other

environmental, racial and political challenges swirling around us these days. We will gather and joyously work together. Our children will become helpers and build a sense of agency, empowerment and enjoyment after a time of uncertainty and lack of control. That is magic!

Silence and Mindfulness. We'll invite the children to listen for their inner voice, to magically imagine and visualize a special character, and to feel the gentle power of mindfulness and centering.

Sunshine and Movement. Summertime is a magical time of less formal learning, and of more connection to nature and the outside. We'll play games that reinforce our message and also allow the children to revel in the joy of being together. The games will also introduce the secret fourth magical "S" of **Silliness**, that special magical humor which helps us stay lighthearted and carefree, able to make it through when life gets hard.

It's going to be a beautiful summer where our children can find agency, fun and magic in these times. Won't you join us?



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 3: The Boys of Decades Ago. Patriarchy is damaging to everyone, including boys and men. The boys of decades ago are the men

of today, the voters we need today if we are to alter the course of patriarchy. Lawrence Ingalls

July 10: The Kendi Anti-racism Group The Kendi Anti-Racism Group speaks on their projects and what they learned. Nancy Loughrey, Nina Smith, Carolina Tercero Brandon, Phyllis Daniel

July 17: Livin' On a Prayer. Prayer is synonymous with religious communities. But how might we, as UUs of many different beliefs, connect with prayer in our own lives and in our congregations? Looking to the natural world as our guide, this service will investigate how prayer, in its many forms, can be a transformative practice of paying attention in our daily lives. Rev. Liz Murphy

July 24: What if Love Actually is 'All We Really Need'? Rev. Dr. Karen Stoyanoff, Minister Emerita

July 31: Universe-All? Ultra-Universalism and Today: Ultra-Universalism is one of our historical beliefs as UUs. Today, we look at what it means, and how we might apply it to modern Unitarian Universalism. KC Pandel



Later this month, I will be attending the Association of UU Music Ministries (AU-UMM) annual conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Like everyone else, our organization canceled the last 2 conferences because of COVID, so I'm looking forward to this one even more than usual. One of the best parts about the conference is the in-between

conversations with colleagues. I've made so many friends throughout the years, and I enjoy reconnecting with them once a year (plus throughout the year on Facebook with some of them). Of course, the workshops and plenary sessions - the meat of the conference - are always informative and inspiring. I will be presenting a workshop about the AUUMM Music Database I created and continue to edit; plus, I will be co-leading a workshop about spiritual practices for music leaders. Each morning begins with a worship service, and it is lovely to be "just" a participant in those services, instead of leading them. There are recitals and a goofy variety show, choral reading sessions (which I'm co-leading this year), and a choral clinician who leads our whole group during the Sunday morning service at our host church. I'm very grateful that OCUUC funds this whole trip through my professional development funds. There are many conference attendees who have to pay their own way, and if that was the case for me, I probably wouldn't be able to go. I am proud of OCUUC for supporting my professional development, and I hope you agree that these conferences have been a worthwhile investment over the years.

Make sure you have Thursday, August 4 at 7pm on your calendar. That's the date that singer-songwriter Spencer LaJoye (they / them) will be at OCUUC for a hybrid concert. Spencer wrote *"The Plowshare Prayer"* and has many other poignant and fun songs they will be sharing.

And welcome to our newest employee, Avery Brown (they/them), who is our new audio engineer. Make sure and say hi to them next time you're at church on a Sunday morning.

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.



ONE MORE STEP

Although the case counts are rising, hospitalizations are barely budging and 84% of those hospitalized are unvaccinated. 98% of congregants responding to the March survey reported they are vaccinated. It seems that people are willing to continue wearing masks in Daniels Hall to keep singing and our children safe. The choir is now on hiatus for the summer. We feel it is time to further relax our guidelines. The current guidelines are:

- 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.

We have always worked to balance everyone's safety with our need to be together. There is no perfect answer and many options! 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



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 in person or online. 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](#)!



AGNOSTICS, HUMANISTS, ATHEISTS

Sunday, July 3, 12:15 pm on Zoom...

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



FICTION BOOK GROUP

The OCUUC Fiction Book Group will not meet the first Monday in July - the 4th - as it's a holiday. Instead, we'll get together online on **July 11th at 7:00pm**. The book being discussed is *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell, a fictional story about William Shakespeare's son.

We invite any newcomers to the church to join us for our lively discussions led by a leader. The meeting link can be found on the [church website](#).

For August 1st we'll discuss *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

Co-chairs: Eva Goodwin-Noriega and Marcia Hackett



Friday, July 1

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, July 2

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, July 3

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

AHA Group, 12:15 pm on Zoom

Dream Group, 12:15pm Suite 7

Monday, July 4

Independence Day - Church Offices

Closed

Friday, July 8

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, July 9

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, July 10

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

Writing Club, 11:45am Suite 7

Monday, July 11

OCUUC Fiction Book Group 7:00pm on Zoom

Tuesday, July 12

Concert in the Park, 6pm Fairview Park

Wednesday, July 13

Comm. On Ministry, 6pm

Friday, July 15

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, July 16

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, July 17

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, July 19

Caring Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom

Concert in the Park, 6pm Fairview Park

Wednesday, July 20

Finance Council, 5pm on Zoom

Friday, July 22

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, July 23

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, July 24

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 Victoria Room and on Zoom

Tuesday, July 26

Concert in the Park, 6pm Fairview Park

Wednesday, July 27

Actionable Anti-racism Group 1pm on Zoom

Board of Trustees, 7pm Suite 7 and Zoom

Friday, July 29

Social Hour, 5:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, July 30

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, July 31

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



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.



ZOOM SOCIAL HOUR!

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

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](https://calendar.ocuuc.org).



There is Still Time for Adult Camp

August 12 – 16
at Camp de Benneville Pines!

This is our first year back among the trees and I'd love to see a huge turn-out. The Theme is *"Relax and Reconnect."* And I can't think of a better place to relax and reconnect than Camp!

There will be artwork, singing, story writing, storytelling, archery, walks in the woods, hot tub, swimming pool and so much more.

Our keynote, speaker Laila Ibrahim, actually attended Camp a few years ago. Her novels have been translated into ten languages, reaching more than 1.5 million readers. Her theme will be *"Living Our Faith Out Loud."*

This year's team of leaders include some familiar faces:

- *Rev. Carolyn Owen-Towle* will lead us in morning worship
- *Rev. Tom Owen-Towle* will lead a multi-day workshop titled *"Who Am I"* as well as singing on the deck in the afternoons
- *Chris Epting* will lead a multi-day workshop titled *"Finding Your Story in Nature"* as well as sharing stories about people, places, and subjects in the evenings.

So, take a break and come join us for Summer Camp for Adults!

Registration is open. Click [here](#) to read more about this camp and to register.



StandUp for Kids - Orange County was launched in 2003 with a single focus: To end the cycle of youth homelessness in our community.

We work to provide basic needs, housing, mentoring support, care, and love to at-risk and homeless youth ages 12-24. In 2021, we adjusted programming to address COVID restrictions and changes.

View our [Programs](#) page to learn how we are continuing to grow in the scope and quality of care we provide to our youth. Because of your support here is what we accomplished in 2021.



Youth that have been served include sexually exploited youth, victims of abuse and/or neglect, LGBTQ youth, kids with disabilities, pregnant and parenting young people, and kids forced out of their homes. For information about Stand-Up for Kids visit www.StandUpforKids.org



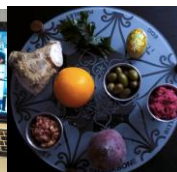
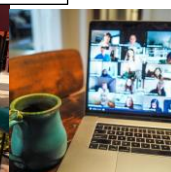
Orange Coast is first built, November 1959



OCUUC in the summer of 1977



HONORING OUR PAST BUILDING OUR FUTURE



OCUUC
RANDOM
MEMORIES AND
VISIONS