

THE REACH

OCUUC'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ORANGE COAST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



Sunday Services in September 2021

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

September 5: Liminality: Learning to Embrace Patience and Faith in the Betwixt and Between
(Due to special circumstances, sermon will be delivered remotely...not in person.)

Rev. Summer Albayati

September 12: Water Ceremony: Embracing Possibility

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

September 19: Personal Growth? Human potential revisited?

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

September 26: What does a brave new world look like now?

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Nancy Loughrey, President, Board of Trustees

We have so much to look forward to as Rev. Sian returns from sabbatical and we start the church year. We are all looking forward to figuring out our "new normal" and to some new and returning programs. Sermon Discussion Groups will re-form soon, and the Fall Auction is planned for November 6th. Depending on the survey results, we might even have a deBenneville weekend soon at our camp in the San Bernardino mountains. On top of all the activity, plans for the new sanctuary are progressing. It will certainly be an interesting and exciting year.

I encourage each one of you to be engaged to the extent of your abilities. OCUUC is definitely a place where you get back what you put into it. In addition to mostly regular attendance at Sunday Services as a Zoomer or Roomer, I encourage each of you to participate in at least one other activity that feeds your interests and needs as you define them. There are many possibilities!

The Board has set goals of increasing both membership and engagement by ten percent this year, and we need each of you to make this happen. Greet a visitor, sign up for a group, or join a committee. The website has lots of information or you may talk with Rev. Sian, anyone at the Welcome Table on Sundays, or any member. We are an awesome congregation and want to demonstrate

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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how we have many different beliefs in one loving community!

Nancy Loughrey
President



The Committee on Ministry and the Board of Trustees reminds the congregation that Rev. Sian will return from sabbatical in early September.



WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER 2021

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

September 5: Liminality: Learning to Embrace Patience and Faith in the Betwixt and Between Some of us live in liminal spaces all the time and have learned to navigate it beautifully. For others, it can be a scary and anxiety-provoking time. What can the Islamic spiritual concept of patience and faith

teach us about the betwixt and between? Rev. Summer Albayati (she/her) NOTE: THIS SERMON WILL BE DELIVERED REMOTELY...IN OTHERWORDS, NOT IN PERSON

September 12: Water Ceremony: Embracing Possibility It's our annual ingathering and water ceremony. Come celebrate this quintessential Unitarian Universalist annual ritual. Bring water that is meaningful to you, but, as always, there is water for everyone. This day we are considering what possibilities will we embrace this coming year, as individuals and as a church? Rev. Sian, Beth Syverson and Karen Magoon Pearson.

September 19: Personal Growth? Human potential revisited?

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

September 26: What does a brave new world look like now?

Rev. Sian Wiltshire



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, if you are attending the service in person, you may write your joy or sorrow for in-person share.

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All Church Picnic at the Park



FORMING FAITH

Religious Education News
Karen Magoon Pearson
Director of Religious Education

We have fully settled into our **Circle of Trees** program, and it seems the children and youth are really enjoying our time together on Sunday mornings. The teachers are, too! We have had several new families join us this month, and we recently had a total of 17 children and youth with us on Sunday morning, which is the highest attendance we've had since the beginning of the pandemic! It has been wonderful to be together, and cohorts of new and returning children have started to spring up with everyone returning to more normal attendance and aided by some fun events outside of Sunday morning, including a pool party hosted by the Smith Scalero family, a wonderful all-church picnic, and a casual beach meet-up. Please send all your gratitude to **Nina Smith** for planning these wonderful events! I know families have also been finding ways to safely get together for play dates, etc. I'm hopeful this level of attendance means we will be able to break up into smaller age-specific groups when we begin our fall programming, which we recently decided will continue taking place at Estancia Park for the foreseeable future.

As always, I am amazed at our community's ability to cherish the space we've built for ourselves while staying open and welcoming to newcomers. This is how we make a vibrant future for ourselves and our children here at OCUUC. I'm sure none of us will ever look back on these pandemic times with fondness, but I do hope I always remember the ways we found to connect virtually, the creativity that blossomed among our OCUUC staff and volunteers when discovering new ways

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to worship, and the care we took when slowly coming back together in person, looking out for one another, and trying to make church a safe place for everyone. One Sunday this month we talked about what "one little person can do" to help our world, and I can't help thinking about all the little (and not so little) things all of you do to help our program thrive. I am proud of all we are accomplishing together during these tough times. Let's keep it up!

Wishing you hope and health this week and beyond,
Karen



AUUMM (Association of Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries) sponsored an online workshop about how to handle overwhelm and trauma, presented by the creator of [The Trauma Stewardship Institute](#), Laura Lipsky. She reminded us of how traumatic the last 18 months have been for the whole globe, dealing with the upheaval that Covid and our faulty response to it has wreaked. Her list of side effects of Overwhelm and Trauma rang true for me and so many of my colleagues: saturated nervous system, lack of presence, disheartened, feeling helpless, anger, etc. But she also gave us a list of survival skills we can use when we are feeling overwhelmed or traumatized: admire art, go outside, be active, spend time with animals, etc. I know for me, music-making has always been my key survival skill. (No pun intended.) I hope you all can dig into your toolbox and find the things that help bring you back to your present body and bring you peace during this difficult time.

I am particularly saddened to bring the choir back to Zoom-only rehearsals, after spending several months in hybrid rehearsals, with many of us singing in our courtyard with masks on. This fall, the choir will continue creating recordings, and I will continue to try my best to bring you uplifting and meaningful music on Sunday mornings, in whatever form that takes. Thank you all for your flexibility and patience. Hopefully we'll all be able to sing together again soon!

Musically Yours,
Beth Syverson
Director of Music Ministries



FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

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



Download our [Get Connected Guide](#), a 1-page document that links to our social media channels and other ways we share information about weekly events and getting more involved at OCUUC.



Some events are Online

Wednesday, September 1

Antiracism book discussion, 3:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, September 2

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, September 3

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, September 4

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Writing Club 6:30pm on Zoom

Sunday, September 5

Meditation Group, 9:45am on Zoom

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

RE in the Park, 10:30am Estancia Park

AHA Group, 12:15 pm on Zoom

Monday, September 6

Labor Day church offices closed

OCUUC Fiction Book Group 7:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, September 9

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, September 10

Artists UUite, 1:00pm Courtyard

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, September 11

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, September 12

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and Zoom

RE in the Park, 10:30am Estancia Park

Wednesday, September 15

Finance Council, 2pm Victoria Room

Antiracism book discussion, 3:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, September 16

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, September 17

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, September 18

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, September 19

Meditation Group, 9:45am on Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and Zoom

RE in the Park, 10:30am Estancia Park

Nonfiction Book Club, 12:30pm on Zoom

Tuesday, September 21

Caring Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, September 22

Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:00pm Victoria Room

Thursday, September 23

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, September 24

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, September 25

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, September 26

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall

RE in the Park, 10:30am Estancia Park

Women's Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom

Monday, September 27

How to Be an Antiracist book discussion 7:00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, September 29

Antiracism book discussion, 3:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, September 30

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom



ARE YOU ON INSTAGRAM?

So is OCUUC! Please follow along at:

<https://www.instagram.com/ocuuchurch/>

or by searching for OCUU-Church in the Instagram app.



FLU SHOTS

*From your Faith Community Nurse
Marilyn Giss*

We will be holding our **Fall Flu Clinic** on Saturday, October 2nd from 10a.m.-1 p.m. Although a room has been scheduled, I believe it is safer and just as efficient to have this be a drive-through clinic as we did last year. Flu vaccine will be given to those 9 years of age and older. This year we will have additional senior dose vaccine available. I will have students to assist but would welcome additional volunteers from church who could assist with set up and take down of tables and chairs. Please contact me if you can help.

The CA Department of Public Health states: "In an effort to prevent a 'twindemic' of COVID-19 and seasonal influenza," they are urging all Californians, 6 months of age and older, to get vaccinated against the flu. Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness that can cause mild to severe illness. A bad case of the flu can result in hospitalization or even death. Older adults and those with certain health conditions, are at high risk of serious flu complications. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated."



A lot has happened in August with the new sanctuary project. Be sure and check out the latest updates from **Craig Sperry** on the Work In Progress blog:

<https://ocuuc.org/sanctuarywip/>

Also, please note that updated architectural renderings may be viewed on the OCUUC website (a few here):

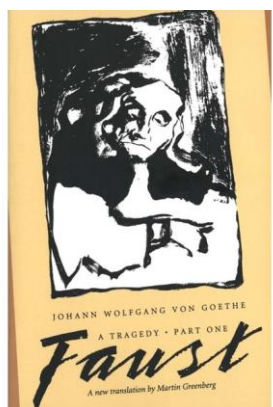
<https://ocuuc.org/who-we-are/sanctuary/>



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FICTION BOOK GROUP

The OCUUC Fiction Book Group continues to enjoy lively monthly discussions on Zoom. For the September 6th meeting at 7:30pm we'll be discussing the famous play, *Faust - Part I* by Goethe.

Please join us online as **Dave Carlson** leads the discussion. Get link from co-chair Eva Goodwin-Noriega. Marcia Hackett, other co-chair.



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.



Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church

Private group · 303 members



OCUUC FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE

Did you know that OCUUC has a Facebook Group page?

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OCUUC>

This is different from the OCUUC Facebook Main page:

<https://www.facebook.com/OCUUCChurch>

The Group page has nearly 300 Group members made up of OCUUC Members, Friends and UU-related followers. The purpose of the Group page is to enable Group members to post content that might interest other Group members. Some good examples are Social Justice events or opportunities, more information or details about specific programs or events happening at OCUUC, or in the community, and items related to the Sunday Worship themes, such as resources that come out of Sermon Discussion Groups, etc. Please think of this Facebook Group page:

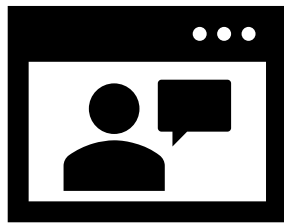
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OCUUC> as your page and post freely with your group mates in mind!



The Atheist/Humanist Group meets on first Sundays at 12:15 p.m. on Zoom. This is a discussion group supporting humanists, agnostics, atheists, deists, and others who view human activity as the basis for moral systems, and view humans as integral parts of the nature of the cosmos.

For more information, email

programs@ocuuc.org.



SOURCES ON ANTI-RACISM NEW BLOG

SOURCES ON ANTI-RACISM ([HTTPS://OCUUC.ORG/SOURCESONANTIRACISM](https://ocuuc.org/sourcesonantiracism))

Sources on Anti-Racism is a weekly blog that contains a list of articles, time-sensitive virtual events and other resources compiled by **Ralph Haller**. The intent is to provide our community with selected sources on anti-racism to help in our yearning for racial justice and equity as an outgrowth of our seven Principles. Please check out Ralph's latest post: <https://ocuuc.org/sourcesonantiracism>



CHURCH COOKBOOK PROJECT

Dear Members and Friends of OCUUC,

A Committee to develop a cookbook to raise funds for our church has been formed. Our goal is to collect recipes from all of you by September 13, 2021 and complete our task in time for the Autumn Auction.

We want this to be a fun and inclusive activity for all of us. We encourage you to include brief stories about your recipes. Maybe a recipe has been handed down from generation to generation or is associated with an important event in your life (funny or otherwise). Of course, it is not a necessary requirement. Not knowing what your response will be, in case we are overwhelmed with recipes, we ask you to prioritize your entries.

Another goal of the committee is to introduce our Church to the community through the cookbook. We would like to include information on the history of OCUUC as well as our principles and activities.

To help us out, we would appreciate it if you could follow a protocol in how you present your recipes. (see next page)



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**Name of Recipe
(story of recipe)**

Ingredients

*

*

Directions

1.

2.

Submitted by: Your name

Please submit all recipes by mail or email to **Betsy Enger** at biobets@comline.com

Thank you to all members of the Cookbook Committee:

Betsy Enger, Marcia Hackett, Sarah Hunter, Judith Stamper

LET'S MAKE THE COOKBOOK A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you

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WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Mark your calendars for September 26th at noon when the Women's Circle will meet on Zoom. The Women's Circle is one of the longest running church groups at OCUUC and is for women of all ages. Grab your cup of coffee or tea after the Sunday service and join us on Zoom. If you have not been to

the Circle for a while or if it's your first time, no worries! Friendly faces are waiting to greet one and all.

The Women's Circle meets every month on the fourth Sunday. Find the Zoom meeting link on the [calendar page](#) of the OCUUC website. Contact [Peggy Priver](#) or the church administrator at admin@ocuuc.org if you have any questions. See you there!



ONE STEP BACK

The increasing numbers of infections of COVID19 in Orange County have caught the attention of all of us. Our numbers continue to increase and have not peaked. Although government agencies have not recommended shutting down, the [UUA guidance](#) has shifted and is recommending more restrictive measures. The Returning to Onsite Task Force has struggled with the evolving information.

We will continue to offer onsite services in addition to Zoom, but **will return to physical distancing in Daniels Hall. This means we are returning to the registration system we used in June.** If you would like to attend services on site this Sunday, please register with the link that will be in the Saturday morning email. It is not necessary to register for RE in the Park. In addition, we have noticed it is difficult to stay distanced when it is a noisy

setting like the courtyard, so please continue to wear your mask when you are in the courtyard. We are also **discontinuing coffee service and food**. Singing in Daniels Hall will return to just one song leader at a time.

Please remember that **masks are always required indoors**, whether in Daniels Hall, smaller meeting rooms, hallways or offices. We all must stay on it!

We are all very ready to move on, but the virus is apparently not done with us yet. We must be responsive to the science and do what we can to keep ourselves and the wider community safe.

Be Safe, Be Well,
Nancy Loughrey



Camp deBenneville Pines

Hello Friends! Your church camp volunteers have been in conversation with Janet

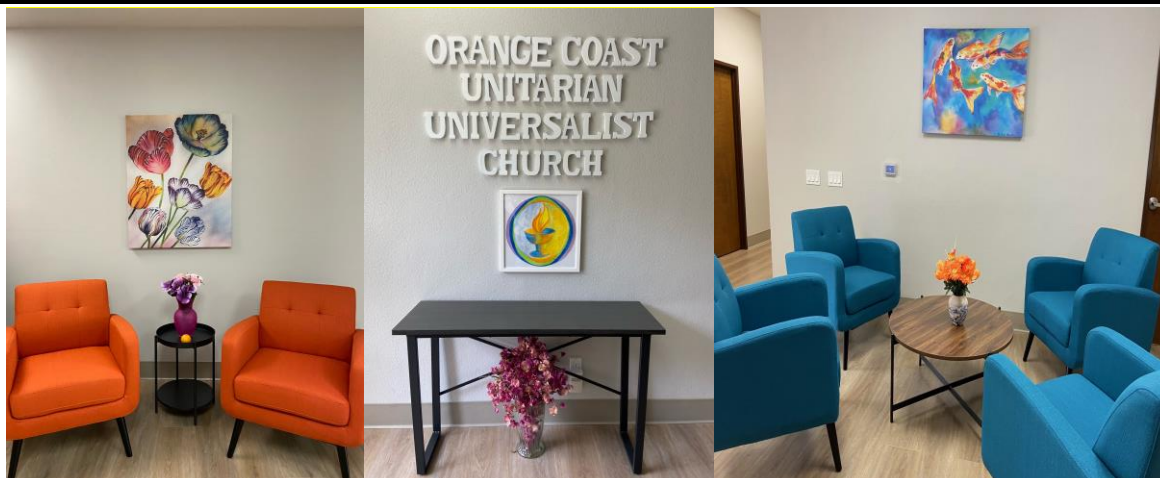
James, the Camp Director at De Benneville Pines and with two other congregations that partner with us on our **all-church camp weekend** in October every year. There was no camp in 2020, so we are exploring with Janet whether there is enough interest to warrant a smaller camp experience this October.

The camp has chosen to host only campers who have been vaccinated. That means, as of now, camp will be limited to attendees 12 and older with proof of vaccination. We are looking at the weekend of October 8-10 for our congregational retreat. Before we make a commitment, we wanted to test the waters and see how interested you all are in camp this year.

If you have never been, every year Tapestry and Orange Coast UU host a camp retreat in early October. A few campers from Laguna Beach UU also join in our weekend. It's a great weekend to relax in the woods and get to know other UUs in a very different environment. You can learn more about camp at www.uucamp.org.

Please answer the few questions in this [2021 Camp Survey](#) to let us know what you think about a camp for 12yo and up this October. I am particularly interested in hearing from those who have attended regularly or who are thinking of going for a first time. Thank you!





R.E.-Administration Lobby Gets a New Look

by Linda Spery

Over the past year many hours of planning, coordination and preparation have gone into the refurbishment of the lobby and meeting spaces in the RE-Administration Building. A fresh coat of paint, new flooring and colorful furniture are in place to create a welcoming environment for everyone who enters the space.

Most recently some final touches have been made with the addition of artwork created and curated by OCUUC artists, past and present. All of the artwork on display at this time in the lobby is by our own Artists UUnite group members **Barbara Morihoro**, **John Cartaya** and **Linda Spery**. One of the sculptures by the late **Isa Graves** was donated by her family and will be placed on a pedestal in the same space.

Each quarter the artwork on the wall just outside Rev. Sian's office will be rotated to feature another OCUUC artist. Additionally, the painting of the Victoria Street church building hung in the Victoria Room is by the late **Jack Parry**. Watercolors by the late **Ute Schultz** are also on display elsewhere.

Next time you are in the RE/administrative building, take a look. Thanks to the artists, along with everyone serving Property Use Group, Building & Grounds and Aesthetic Committee for making the transformation happen.

*The mission of Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church
is to transform our lives and communities by living our*



UU MEN'S FELLOWSHIP FALL RENEWAL

Camp deBenneville Pines

Mark your calendars for the UU Men's Fellowship Fall Renewal now scheduled to occur at Camp deBenneville Pines on October 29-31, with an option to arrive on Thursday, October 28. Attendance will be limited to 65 persons, and all attendees must have had their full COVID-19 vaccinations completed prior to October 7th. Attendees must also be free of any signs or symptoms of new infection such as elevated temperature, loss of appetite, malaise, or be exposed to others with such. A \$200 fee this fall includes all meals and lodging. Scholarships are available to persons in need of such. Our theme will center around the masks we wear, and how these masks might help us or hinder us.

The Men's Fellowship Renewals offer a safe place in which we as brothers, can be open to the issues that challenge us to the core of who we are and help us to begin the process of exploring them. It is also a time for music and singing, hot tub and hiking, drumming and ritual, conversation and renewing friendships, meditation and quiet time. If you are interested contact **Cory Brown** at KG6EP@AOL.COM, and/or check out the following: [First UU Church San Diego Men's Fellowship Fall Renewal](#)

Thanks,
Cory Brown

SEPTEMBER PLATE SHARE



One life at a time.

STAND UP FOR KIDS — ORANGE COUNTY was established in 1990 and serves homeless and at-risk youth and young adults 25 and younger. Programs in Orange County offer street outreach, mentoring, housing support and so much more.

Programs have the overall goal of leading homeless youth to self-sufficiency and preventing at-risk youth from gang involvement, substance abuse, teen pregnancy, and from dropping out of high school.

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 contact them directly at 714 356-5437. www.StandUpForKids.org

Be safe, be well,
You mean the world to me.
Be safe, be well,
You mean the world to me.

- Words by Dan Berggren