

THE REACH

OCUUC'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ORANGE COAST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER 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.

October 3: A Pandemic Retrospective Through Song.

Beth Syverson

October 10: The X Card.

Rev. Sian, Rev. Judy, Rev. Liz

October 17: The Wisdom of Democracy.

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

October 24: Who Owns a Culture?

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

October 31: We Remember Them.

Mathew Taylor, UU Seminarian

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Nancy Loughrey, President, Board of Trustees

Tom and I had a wonderful trip around our country. Seven thousand three hundred seventy-four miles, two hurricanes, one parent, two children and spouses, three grandchildren, four siblings and spouses, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and great friends later, we are back. All of it was a few at a time and as COVID safe as we could manage. My overriding impression is of a fantastically diverse and spectacularly beautiful country, and how lucky we are to be able to visit the people and see everything we did. It was good to get away and good to come back.

Sian's first sermon upon our return was on Transcendentalism. We had just visited Concord and seen a play on Emerson (Tom is a very distant relative) and Thoreau at Fruitlands, site of a Transcendentalist commune. The idea of Nature as a source of wellness, meaning and connection has great meaning for me as I suspect it does for many of you. We do have an interconnected web in so many ways.

With schools back in session and Sian back, it feels like we are getting back in full swing. Although nothing shows yet, the Sanctuary project is progressing <https://ocuc.org/sanctuarywip> See the Blog for details. We are hoping for groundbreaking in January. With our small groups and many other programs resuming, it is good to be back. Hopefully the pandemic will continue to subside, and we can get back to more onsite activities soon. I applaud the creativity and initiative of those who have been organizing the picnics, pool party and beach events so we can see each other safely. It is good to be together.

Our denomination leaders are offering several opportunities for leadership training and

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Many Different Beliefs,
One Loving Community



JOIN FOR OUR SERVICES
SUNDAYS AT 10:30

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

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organizing. I encourage all of you to consider them. I have taken many of these over the years, and always find them energizing and worthwhile. Enjoy!

Nancy Loughrey

SIAN'S SHENANIGANS

From Our Minister: Rev. Sian Wiltshire



As we celebrate the cultivation of relationships this month, it is my great pleasure to let you all know about two wonderful new relationships for this congregation:

Affiliated Ministers! Affiliated ministers are different from called ministers (like me). They are not interns, they are board approved, and generally they are not paid for the covenantal work they offer. They are ministers who would like to affiliate with a congregation for a variety of reasons. The two who are now affiliated are **Rev. Judy Tomlinson** and **Rev. Liz Murphy**. Rev. Judy (who you all know as our former Director of Religious Education) would like to be affiliated as she continues her ministry into retirement. Affiliation provides her with a sense of legitimacy for any public ministry she may do and a sense of ministerial connection. As part of her covenant with us, she will be offering a workshop and preaching once a year (this is on top of her volunteer work in RE – she rocks!).

Rev. Liz, who has preached here twice, is affiliating with us for slightly different reasons. She is a newly minted minister who will be serving as

a chaplain at the VA hospital. All UU ministers start their first three years in “preliminary fellowship.” This means that they need support through a Committee on Ministry (COM) as they navigate their calling. We will be providing 2-3 people for her COM and Rev. Liz too will be providing a workshop and preaching here once a year in return.

It's an incredible boon to our congregation and I invite you to come meet them on Oct. 10th when they will be introduced to the congregation in their new role. You can also reach out to them at revjudy@ocuuc.org and revliz@ocuuc.org.

With Love,
Rev. Sian



WORSHIP IN OCTOBER 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.

October 3: A Pandemic Retrospective through Song: Our Director of Music Ministries, Beth Syverson, will be leading an almost-all-music service that will be a reflection of lessons that she and the church's musicians have learned about music and life while trying to keep our music afloat during the pandemic.

October 10: The X Card Gaming communities are working on ways to be welcome to those not traditionally welcomed elsewhere. Find out what we can learn from them. Today we also welcome our

two new Affiliated Ministers: Rev. Judy and Rev. Liz.

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

October 17: The Wisdom of Democracy. Democracy requires diversity, which leads to wisdom. But it isn't an easy path. Come hear how we might navigate these challenges.

Rev. Sian Wiltshire

October 24: Who Owns a Culture? What is the difference between cultural appropriation and cultural appreciation? Come explore these concepts with...

...Rev. Sian Wiltshire

October 31: We Remember Them. We have lost a lot this year: loved ones, opportunities, and a sense of normalcy. But on this Sunday, Samhain, in many earth-based practices, we take a brief moment to reflect on those who have joined the ancestral realm and the legacy that they leave behind as we move forward into our next normal.

Mathew Taylor



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.



ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

Everyone had so much fun at the picnic in August, we're planning it again! Details to follow, but please save the date: Saturday, October 16th from 3:00pm to 5:00pm at Estancia Park in Costa Mesa.

FORMING FAITH

Religious Education News
Karen Magoon Pearson
Director of Religious Education

Here in Religious Education for Children and Youth, we kicked off fall by sharing a beautiful Water Ceremony created just for kids on September 12th. We had 19 children and youth with us, and it was a fantastic experience. I was so touched by the way the kids were eager to participate and showed reverence in their own ways. It was very special for me, and I hope it was for them, too.

On Sunday, September 19th, we began our fall programming. We are using several curricula from [Soul Matters](#) to serve our various age groups. These curricula all follow the same monthly themes as our worship at OCUUC, connecting families' various experiences at church. Additionally, these programs are developed as the year progresses, meaning they can be responsive to current events and the changing needs of our congregations. Another very important aspect of these programs is that there will be an emphasis on integrating anti-racist, anti-oppressive, and multicultural themes

throughout all sessions, some sessions fully focused on these lessons, and a direct focus on the spiritual needs of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) children and families. Our Youth Group is now meeting on our church campus, as they are all fully vaccinated, and grades PreK-7th continue to meet at Estancia Park for the foreseeable future.

At the first Youth Group session for the fall, the youth discussed what has worked well for the group in the past and what they would like to see be different this year. There was a lot of enthusiasm expressed for community service projects, so if you have opportunities you think would be a good fit for this group, please be in touch!

Karen



I want to highlight the many hard-working volunteers who have stepped up to make our hybrid services happen. I'm sure most people realize that it takes lots of extra energy - and volunteer hours - to create basically two services simultaneously - one on Zoom and one in Daniels Hall. Huge kudos go to **Steve Morihoro**, who did all the research to figure out how to make hybrid services work effectively, gathered all the extra equipment we needed (including miles of cables), set it all up, wrote user manuals, trained each tech volunteer, and continues to tweak the operation protocols of each of the tech roles. We literally wouldn't have hybrid services without his hard work and dedication to this community, so next time you see him, please give him your personal appreciation.

There are so many people who stepped up in the last few months to help behind the camera, the sound board, or the laptop and who have made the services run smoothly.

- Our **Zoom MCs** work off-site to monitor the Zoom room, create breakout rooms, record the service, and liaise with the Daniels Hall presenters. Our Zoom MCs:

Geoff Ayton, Derek Dunn-Rankin, Don Martin, Katherine Martin, Michael Morero, and Steve Morihoro.

- Our **Audio Engineers** set up the mics and other equipment, test them all, mute and unmute microphones, monitor the Zoom sound vs. the Room sound, and adjust sound as needed during the service. Our Audio Engineers: **Tracey Daschbach, Nancy Loughrey, Debra Quam, and Craig Sperry.**
- Our **Camera Operators** set up the camera software and presets, then move the camera during the service with their joysticks. Our Camera Operators: **Phil Chipman, Tom Loughrey, Steve Morihoro, Meg Wilson.**
- Our **Slideshow Operators** run the slideshow from Daniels Hall, sharing it in a very specific way so the Roomers and Zoomers both get the appropriate view of the slides. Our Slideshow Operators: **Justin Brandon, Ginny Chan, Traci Fish, Laura Gethard Beach, and Katherine Martin.**
- Our **A/V Tech** sets up mic stands, runs cables, tapes them down, and assists the Audio Engineer and Camera Operator as needed. Our A/V Tech: **Joel Kilchoer.**

In pre-Covid days, one person (sometimes two) took care of all the A/V - which was just sound and slides. Now as you can see we use four or five people every week just for the tech roles, not to mention the Ushers, Slideshow Creators, Flower Coordinator, and more. I appreciate all the efforts of all these dedicated and reliable volunteers, who have such a heart for this community that they're willing to learn new skills, show up early, schlep equipment, and do the unglamorous jobs that are so necessary for our hybrid services to run. Please thank these folks next time you see them. And if anyone else would like to get involved, we can definitely find a role for you.

Musically Yours,
Beth Syverson
Director of Music Ministries



Are you curious to know more about Unitarian-Universalism, OCUUC and its programs and classes, or what it entails to become a member?

If so, you are invited to join **Rev. Sian** and **Karen Kennedy** in person on Saturday, October 9 at 10:00 in the Victoria Room at OCUUC. It will be a pleasant time to have a cup of coffee, get to know other new people and Rev Sian in a small group setting, listen, learn, and get your questions answered. For any questions or to RSVP, contact Karen at 949-215-3748 or kkg17kk@gmail.com.

Hope to see you there!

Karen Kennedy
214-212-1476 cell



AUCTION--SAVE THE DATE!

Coming on Saturday, November 13 is our Auction! Details will be revealed soon, but for now, put this date on your calendars for **"It's The Great Auction, Charlie Brown!"** We will be adjusting what you have been used to over the years to blend with the needs of the day. For example, look for this event to be out in the courtyard in the afternoon for both dining and bidding. Expect Snoopy's Chefs to serve up a feast fit for Miles Standish or Charlie Brown himself. Look forward to bidding on items both online as we did last year AND live as we have in years past!

Our Peanuts Gang will be ready beginning this Sunday to answer questions, give ideas for amazing items you can donate to be auctioned, and help with the specifics. We are working toward hosting an event on our church grounds

that is COVID regulation compliant and allowing our members and friends the freedom to offer auction events for bidding that provide for the comfort and safety of individuals who host. Those standards will be made available in the individual catalogue listings. We all want to enjoy the company of our friends both new and familiar in the safest way and will meet any challenges as they arise.

See you on 11/13/21!



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.



Some events are Online

Friday, October 1

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, October 2

Free Drive-thru flu shots, 10:00am

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Writing Club 6:30pm on Zoom

Sunday, October 3

Meditation Group, 9:45am on Zoom

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

RE in the Park, Youth Group onsite 10:30am

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AHA Group, 12:15 pm on Zoom

Tuesday, October 5

OCUUC Fiction Book Group 7:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, October 7

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, October 8

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, October 9

Exploring OCUUC, 10:00am Victoria Room
StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 10

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and Zoom

RE in the Park, Youth Group onsite 10:30am

Wednesday, October 13

Antiracism book discussion, 3:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, October 14

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, October 15

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, October 16

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom
All Church Picnic, 3:00pm at Estancia Park

Sunday, October 17

Meditation Group, 9:45am on Zoom
Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and Zoom

RE in the Park, Youth Group onsite 10:30am

Nonfiction Book Club, 12:30pm on Zoom

Tuesday, October 19

Caring Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, October 20

Finance Council, 2:00pm Victoria Room

Thursday, October 21

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, October 22

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, October 23

Board of Trustees Meeting, 9:00am Victoria Room

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 24

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall
RE in the Park, Youth Group onsite 10:30am
Women's Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom

Monday, October 25

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

Wednesday, October 27

Antiracism book discussion, 3:30pm on Zoom

Thursday, October 28

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm on Zoom

Friday, October 29

Social Hour, 7:30pm on Zoom

Saturday, October 30

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 31

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and Zoom

RE in the Park, Youth Group onsite 10:30am



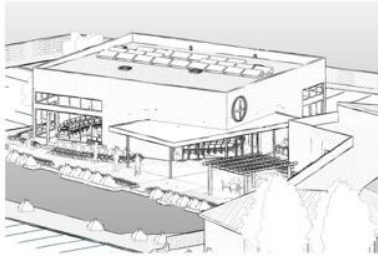
FLU SHOTS

*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.



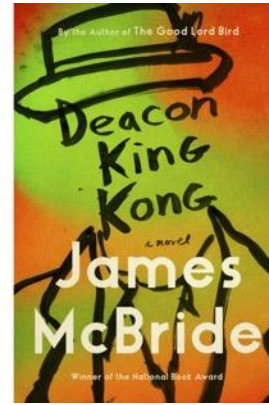
Cover Page of Development Review Plan

This past week we submitted our Development Review Plan to the City of Costa Mesa Department of Development Services. Prepared by *domusstudio* in collaboration with the landscape architectural firm, the structural engineer, the geotechnical engineer, the civil engineer and the contractor, the comprehensive design review application is a requirement for the building permit submittal application.

All property owners within a 500-foot radius of the new sanctuary will receive notification of the pending project now that the application has been submitted. We anticipate processing of the plan to take eight weeks.

Regular scheduled meetings have continued in September with the sanctuary construction committee, the architect, contractor and audio visual vendor to fine tune budgets and design. **Steve Morihiro** and **Beth Syverson** have played a major role in design of the audio-visual system for the new space.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the project, please contact me at craigsperry@aol.com.



FICTION BOOK GROUP

The Fiction Book Group's meeting for October is changed. We will meet on the first Tuesday, Oct. 5th, (not Monday), at 7:30pm on Zoom. Our book for the month is Deacon King Kong by James McBride.

We welcome new participants to our lively discussions. You can get the link by contacting Eva Goodwin-Noriega, co-chair, or 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.



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. All are welcome. Find the Zoom link on our website calendar page.

For more information, email programs@ocuuc.org.

SOURCES ON ANTI-RACISM

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>

UU MEN'S FELLOWSHIP FALL RENEWAL

Friday, October 29, 2021 to
Sunday, October 31, 2021

Registration is now open for our Fall Renewal scheduled for [Camp deBenneville Pines](#) October 29 to 31 with an option to arrive early on Thursday, October 28. Attendance will be limited to 65 to provide more space in the cabins (and allow lower bunks for all). It is required that all will have had their full Covid-19 vaccinations completed prior to October 7, 2021 and be free of signs or symptoms of new infection such as elevated temperature, loss of appetite, malaise, or be exposed to others with such.

The Camp has worked hard to have everything ready after the Covid Crisis, the mud slides,

and the cleaning of all the Cabins. We will observe all State, County, and National Forest recommendations and regulations, and so may be subject to change as we near the time. The number of campers will be decreased so that there is no crowding in any one cabin and social distancing can be observed. We aspire to be flexible for campers to determine their own comfort/risk-level: **Red**: mask and social distancing at all times except eating; **Yellow**: masks optional in well ventilated or outside, masks on in close indoor setting, or if in contact with a brother wearing red band, all with social distancing; **Green**: Masks optional except in closed settings or in connection with a red band, social distancing relaxed, but not direct contact. No one will be pressured or shamed to choose one choice. All will be honored.

Not only will the number of campers be decreased, but the number of staff may be decreased so that we may have to fill in for some staff functions. Our schedule will be informal and flexible. Still, we will have plenty of time to share with our brothers in a way for which we all long. There will be an option to arrive Thursday evening so that we can adjust more slowly and to work on camp projects.

The \$200 fee this year includes all meals and lodging and must be paid by check or money draft when the registration is submitted. Checks will not be cashed until after camp is completed so that if it is necessary to cancel the Renewal due to new Covid 19 restrictions or personal illness, registration checks can be returned or voided and destroyed.

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. In small supportive kinship group settings, we will share confidentially and in a non-judgmental manner. We welcome our sometimes-raw emotions and self-aware laughter at our foibles. In addition, there will be time for music and singing, hot tub and hiking, drumming and ritual, conversation and renewing friendships, and meditation and quiet time.

Please download and review the documents below. The Registration Form, Covid Release, and Emergency/Health Info should be completed, printed, and mailed along with a check or money order to Men's Renewal, First UU San Diego, 4190 Front St., San Diego CA 92103

[Registration Form](#) • [Covid Protocol](#) • [Covid Release](#) • [Camp Rules](#) • [Emergency/Health Info](#)

For more information, comments, or other questions, please contact Mike Dorfi (mdorfi@cox.net, 619-887-1748) or John Holl (johnholl@cox.net, 619-271-3672)



LEADING FROM THE HEART

The Pacific Western Region is offering a highly accessible online spiritual leadership program for UU leaders (and UU leaders-to-be) this fall! It focuses on topics that help us grow as leaders in our professional lives as well as our congregational lives. Topics will include: UU and ancestral theology, the synergy of passion and mission, and living out of conviction. It's free of charge and begins October 13th.

Visit <https://www.uua.org/pacific-western/blog/leadership-dev> to learn more and sign up.

LeaderLab: Additionally, do you know about the vast, and growing, collection of leadership development resources on UUA.org? And our online courses in the UU Leadership Institute? Visit www.uua.org/leadership to get connected to leadership development that you can do alone, do with a group from our congregation, or do with a group from all over the country.



WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Mark your calendars for October 24th 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!



MEDITATION GROUP

Our OCUUC Meditation Group meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday - via Zoom. Meditation and mindfulness practice are so important for our well-being! Please join our community via Zoom before Church on Sundays, October 3rd and 17th from 9:45am to 10:20am. 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!](#)



RETURNING TO ONSITE POLICY UPDATES

Orange County COVID 19 statistics are improving, but are not back to June and July levels. We would like to have our coffee back! The Task Force met this week and decided on a tradeoff: We will start requiring that anyone coming on-site to be fully vaccinated. It will be the honor system, no one wants to worry about cards. It also won't be perfect - we will still welcome visitors, and children with their vaccinated parents. Given that change, we feel comfortable discontinuing the registration for Sunday services and returning the coffee service

Indoors - Masks are still required for all indoor activities. Since we are discontinuing registration, more people may be in Daniels Hall.

Outdoors - Masks and physical distancing will be encouraged but not required outside on Sundays after the service. Coffee will be available. Each person must monitor and maintain their own comfort level. The courtyard is a special place, and it is easy to flip back to pre-COVID practices. Let's keep each other safe!

We are also going to re-survey the whole congregation to get an update on people's opinions and vaccination statuses. Watch for a link in next week's Blast.

Be safe, be well!

Nancy Loughrey



Message from Camp deBenneville Pines

As fall rapidly approaches, there is incredible enthusiasm as we prepare to welcome back campers. Although the pandemic has required us to adopt additional safety measures, we are confident that camp will be the same treasured experience that it has been for the last 60 years.

Our overriding goal has been to put camper safety first while aiming to make camp feel like camp. We are taking the commonsense approach of a "soft re-opening" this fall that will protect camper health while allowing campers to share experiences in their spiritual home on the mountain top.

We are deeply grateful for the outpouring of love and support we have received through this challenging time. As we look forward to better days, we wish for everyone to be healthy and safe.

TOGETHER WE THRIVE.



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If you are a BIPOC¹ UU leader, this is for you! Announcing...

Taproot: A National BIPOC Space

Date & times:

- Thursday, October 14, 2021, 7:00-8:15 pm MDT, 6:00-7:15 pm PDT, 3:00-4:15 HST
- Thursday, November 22, 2021
- Thursday, December 9, 2021

The work of spiritual community is complicated in the 21st century. From busy schedules to the ever-pressing tension brought on by systemic injustice, the need for faithful leadership that is grounded and resilient is imperative. This is all the more true for leaders within our communities and congregations who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). All too aware of this need, the UUA Congregational Life staff are excited to explore and co-create a network with congregational leaders that support them in this time in emergent ways through **Taproot: A National BIPOC Space**. The organizing pillars of this collective are:

- Rest & Renewal
- Analysis Building
- Leadership Development

BIPOC Leaders rooted in the Unitarian Universalist congregations are invited to take part in this monthly, virtual gathering as we explore these pillars in creating means by which to ground ourselves in resilient communities of care.

Dates: Starting on the Second Thursday of the month, starting October 14th. Remaining dates for the Fall: Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 9

Time: 7pm MT/6pm PT/3pm HT

Contacts: Tyler Coles, tcoles@uua.org, Summer Albayati, SAlbayati@uua.org, Sana Saeed, ssaeed@uua.org

This space is explicitly for people identifying as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

[Register Now](#)

All participants are asked to register for this event, you will receive the zoom connection information in your confirmation email.

¹ BLACK, INDIGENOUS, PEOPLE OF COLOR

OCTOBER PLATE SHARE



For over 40 years, **Alzheimer's Family Center** in Huntington Beach has been committed to improving the quality of life for families challenged by Alzheimer's disease or another dementia. As the only Adult Day Health Care facility dedicated solely to patients with memory loss, we provide affordable access to high-quality medical, therapeutic, and psychosocial services for the most vulnerable seniors – those facing a host of chronic health conditions in addition to dementia at all levels of severity. Caregivers receive respite from the 24/7 demands of caregiving while their loved one is in our care, and peace of mind in knowing that their loved one is being treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

For more information, visit AFSCENTER.org or call 714-593-1860.



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Be safe, be well,
You mean the world to me.
Be safe, be well,
You mean the world to me.
- Words by Dan Berggren

BLAST FROM THE PAST

As we prepare for our new sanctuary, some of us remember other times of change....



Orange Coast is first built, November 1959

Catherine L. Hofmann moved to Orange County in the early 1950's and found no liberal church to attend. She was a minister's daughter. She enlisted the help of Dr. Charles Blauvelt, the Universalist pastor in Pasadena. Together, they made a list of people in the area who had received Universalist mailings and invited them to meet on Sunday mornings.

They came.

In 1953, the group was too big for her living room. A meeting was called in February at an American Legion Hall to consider the official founding of a Universalist Fellowship. The Legion Hall, shared with a Lutheran congregation, became the Fellowship's home. Rev. G. Douglas Frazier, Minister-at-Large of the California Universalist Association, worked with the group that year, and in the spring a Religious Education program began for all children. In November, an official minister was hired, Dr. Frederick W. Ringe, with his wife, Bess, who served as Music Director. In nearby Santa Ana, a group of Unitarians were trying to establish a church, with a group of women called the Women's Liberal Religious Alliance. Some of those families began to attend the Universalist meetings. Money for a building fund began to be accumulated, and in 1954, the Women's Liberal Religious Alliance contributed their \$600 treasury to the project.

A handsome hilltop site in Costa Mesa was selected. The building was designed by James

Webb, a member of the group. The unconventional shape drew much local attention. While the church was being built, the congregation met for a time at the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach. The first meeting in the new building was held on Sunday, March 6, 1960. The presiding minister was Rev. Charles Blauvelt, now retired and a new resident in the Newport area. He urged everyone to bring coats, as the interior was far from finished. Many brought their own folding chairs.

That year, in Boston, the decision was made to combine the Unitarians and the Universalists.

This church voted to exercise its option and retain the name of The Universalist Community Fellowship. A family named Willits gifted the church with a Steinway grand piano. In 1962, a Mrs. Montague formed a Children's Choir to perform at Easter and Christmas. A Women's Alliance was formed and purchased handsome new light fixtures for the Sanctuary. The 1960 records show 87 members, 57 "friends", and 105 children.

In 1965 The Rev. Roger T. Walke accepted the ministry of what was still called the Universalist Community Fellowship, although more often, the connected name Unitarian Universalist Church was being used. He organized a drive to buy new hymnals in 1966, and approved changing the name of the lively church newsletter to "The Reach". Rev. Walke resigned in 1971, and the group continued as a Fellowship.



OCUUC in the summer of 1977

...to be continued, when space permits...

The Reach Editor

Many Different Beliefs,
One Loving Community

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