

THE REACH

OCUUC'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ORANGE COAST
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH



SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER 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.

Oct. 2: The Courage to Change.
Rev. Sian Wiltshire

Oct. 9: Hope is an Act of Courage!
Rev. Sian Wiltshire

Oct 16: Happy Holidays or Merry Christmas?
Rev. Sian Wiltshire

Oct. 23: Lucky to be Here in the First Place.
Rev. Tom Owen-Towle

Oct. 30: Boo! Rev. Sian Wiltshire

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Nancy Loughrey, President, Board of Trustees

Once again, our Wild and Scenic Film Festival was a huge success! Many, many, thanks to Linda Spery and her crew for all the work and organization. A great weekend at OCUUC! It was especially wonderful to see so many new faces and expand our circle. I have a feeling we will be hearing more about many of the issues raised.

We are all anxious to know when construction of our new sanctuary will begin. It is already later than any of us imagined. The only honest answer is: I don't know. But I do believe it is getting closer. Our building drawings are finally in Plan Check, and the due date for them to come back is October 10. We expect there will be some changes required as almost always happens in plan check. Our architect will need to make the changes and resubmit the revised plans. We can't expect to get a firm bid until we have approved plans, and bidding also takes time. The timing of these steps will affect when we may actually break ground.

In the meantime, we are preparing. We already emptied the building (and temporarily refilled it!). Our architect gave us an expected schedule when we started. Using what steps we have completed to date, we can hope to start construction in early December. Our challenge as a congregation is that we can no longer rely on the quote we received in 2020 to still be accurate. Inflation happens. The original schedule allowed just

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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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one week between the time the bid was completed and construction starts. Yikes!

We are a democracy, and it is not fast! The Board, the Finance Council, and the Sanctuary Construction Committee are all working on a way we can be prepared. We are working on an action plan. I expect there may be a Town Hall meeting in November to provide a lot more information about our options and expected costs. We will provide more information as quickly as possible and definitely allow time for input from the congregation. If the cost goes above the approved amount of \$1.8 million, we may have to have a congregation meeting. Stay tuned and pay attention!

It is a wonderful, challenging time. I am so glad to be a part of it, even if I do think about it in the middle of the night. A new sanctuary will be glorious. We will get there together!

Nancy Loughrey
president@ocuuc.org



A friend of mine once told me that he thought I was a courageous person. I was confused. I hadn't done anything to my mind that seemed in any way courageous.

When I asked him why he said that, he replied, "Well, you went off and lived in Australia. You've moved around a lot, even overseas." I was rather stunned that he

considered that "courageous." I had moved around all my life – my parents were inveterate travelers. Moving was never something that scared me. It never occurred to me that this might be considered brave by someone else. When I thought about my friend – he lived in the same state his whole life, rarely moving, same house, same job for long periods of time - I realized that what is "courage" is a relative term. For my friend, who couldn't imagine uprooting himself, it seemed a brave thing to do. It made me wonder if he longed to do the same thing, but stopped himself out of fear.

Who or what do you think is courageous? And what longing does it bring up in you, perhaps? How might you be "that" brave?

With love,
Rev. Sian



COME WORSHIP WITH 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:

Oct. 2: The Courage to Change. It's not easy admitting when we've done something wrong or hurt someone, either as a nation or as an individual. Racism is one of the biggest hurts we all have to face. How do we find the courage to face what needs to be changed as a nation and in ourselves? Rev. Sian. *Note:*

we will have opportunities to discuss in small groups later that week, see below.

Oct. 9: Hope is an act of courage! As we reflect on Indigenous People's Day, where can we draw hope that there is positive change in our world? Rev. Sian

Oct. 16: Happy Holidays or Merry Christmas? Is there such a thing as the separation of church and state? And if so, how do we, as a church that believes in democracy, walk that line? Rev. Sian

Oct. 23: Lucky to be Here in the First Place! Thanksgiving is one of the greatest holidays because it honors not military prowess but spiritual freedom. Gratitude is a foundational virtue. Rev. Tom Owen-Towle.

Oct. 30: Boo! As we approach Halloween, or All Hallows Eve, why do we dress up as monsters and scary things? What has paganism to do with Halloween? Come join us as we explore this spooky holiday! Rev. Sian

- Monday, Oct. 3, 4 pm, on zoom, facilitated by Nina Smith
- Tuesday, Oct. 4, 7 pm, on zoom, facilitated by Nancy Loughrey
- Wednesday, Oct. 5, 7 pm, on -site, Suite 7, facilitated by Carolina Tercero Brandon
- Thursday, Oct. 6, 2 pm, on zoom, facilitated by Phyllis Daniel



The Courage to Change
Sunday, October 2nd

After Rev. Sian's sermon on Sunday, Oct 2nd there will be opportunities that week to join the conversation and offer feedback in a small group where we can share our stories and personal experiences.

Widening the Circle

WIDENING THE CIRCLE

Similar to the groups offered in July, these are one-time, open-to-all, feedback sessions. Everyone is welcome. The purpose is to hear your comments on the issues raised in the service and to share our own stories. The proposed sessions are scheduled for:

FALL AUCTION!

'Tis The Season is our Fall Auction, Saturday, November 12, 2022, at 3:00 beginning in the courtyard and continuing in Daniels Hall. The theme is to honor all of our cherished traditions from family to family. Our dinner will consist of meats supplied by the Auction Committee and side dishes and desserts provided by you, our beloved community. You may choose to buy a dinner ticket for \$10.00 (in advance is preferred for planning) or if you would like to share a culinary tradition, something that feels like home to you, you may sign up with Peggy Hepler on Sundays after service. If you choose this option, your dinner fee is waived. One dinner ticket per food donation. When

you sign up, we will have you write a description of what makes the dish special to you and we will print a card to display with your food.

The website for auction item submission is up and running.

www.togetherauction.com/ocuuc

Use the website to enter your event and item donation. Our congregation loves to attend many types of events, but it seems there is a real desire for a meal, particularly if you are "famous" for a certain kind of food. We love to be educated, perhaps a tour of a garden or a museum, or take us to see a sight that is off the beaten path. We love to be entertained with card games, music, live shows and other entertainments. Please always include a date for events. Rescheduling is a fact of life, but folks tend not to bid on dates to be determined. We will auction most events and some kinds of items live, but we will continue doing a silent auction online for most items. This allows for friends to participate in the auction from afar and from near, if attending in person is not convenient. We also encourage using a proxy if you cannot attend due to a schedule conflict or any other reason. If you cannot arrange one, reach out to the Committee and we will assign one for you. Distribution of items won will be arranged between donor and winning bidder.

The final date for submissions is October 30 at midnight.

If you have enjoyed our auctions in the past, we look forward to seeing you again. If you have not yet attended an auction, it is one of the most fun events we host at OC-UUC. Not only that, but you can also do your Holiday shopping and fill your social calendar for the Fall and Winter seasons. For most of us, the auction events we host and attend are among the most enjoyable things we do. It makes life wonderful to spend time with new and old friends.

Reach out to the Auction Committee if you have any questions. We will be in the courtyard every Sunday after service and our email is auction@ocuuc.org

See you all at 'Tis The Season!

JoLynn Jones Ibáñez



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



WHEN THE POWER GOES OUT, THE SHOW MUST GO ON!

A neighborhood power outage at the Orange Coast Wild & Scenic Film Festival with 10 minutes left of the film "ReBuilding Butte" didn't stop us from keeping things rolling. We moved up the timing of the Q & A with filmmaker Amanda Lipp and the film's "star" Alyssa Nolan and OC Film Festival team leader Linda Spery. Attendees turned on their cell phone flashlights for extra light to supplement the emergency lighting in the venue. When the power came back on a short time later, we completed the Q & A and resumed screening the film without missing a beat.

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FORMING FAITH

Religious Education News
Karen Magoon Pearson
Director of Religious Education

On September 17th we brought together families from our church, from Tapestry UU in Lake Forest, and from our larger Orange County community for very successful orientation for our upcoming *Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education* (OWL) classes for grades 4 to 6. This curriculum, developed by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ, is designed to help children ages nine through twelve gain the knowledge, life principles, and skills they need to express their sexuality in life-enhancing ways. Unlike many other sexuality curricula currently available, this program is comprehensive and progressive. In an inclusive and developmentally appropriate manner, it addresses sensitive topics that are typically excluded from sex ed programs.

From September to December, ten youth will be participating in this vital and life-affirming program. Over ten sessions, they will explore *Sexuality and Values, Images in Popular Culture, Body Image, Changes of Puberty, Gender, Feelings and Attraction, Reproduction and Staying Healthy, Decisions and Actions, Consent and Peer Pressure, and Healthy Relationships*. They will be guided by our dedicated OWL facilitators: **Maria Goode, Jacques Kilchoer, and Rev. Judy Tomlinson**. I'm sure you join me in my excitement that we are once again able to offer this program to our community. I am hopeful that the energy behind bringing this class to fruition this fall will continue so that we might be able to offer additional grade levels on a regular basis going forward.

You can find out more about OWL at <https://www.uua.org/re/owl>

MUSIC NOTES

from Director of Music Ministries: Beth Syverson

We are so lucky at OCUUC to have such dedicated and talented musicians in our ranks. Orange Coast Choir is practicing every Thursday at 7pm and we're usually singing 3 times per month in the Sunday services. If you're interested in singing with us, or just trying it out, come on over on a Thursday, or contact me anytime. Orange Coast Choir meets in Daniels Hall and on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/581556612>. The only two requirements to get into the choir are that you can match pitch and follow directions. Since we don't often line out everyone's name in the choir, I thought I'd do that here, so you can all share my gratitude for these individuals who make up the choir: **Phyllis Kaplan** (our newest member!), **Ginny Chan, Phil Chipman, Eva Goodwin-Noriega, Renee Hsia, Bob Loeschen, Nancy Loughrey, Ted Lundholm, Barbara Morihiro, Steve Morihiro, Barbara Schilling, Susan Shaw, Stacy Smith, Craig Spery, and Amy Tompkins**. There are a few choir members who are on hiatus right now, but who have sung with us regularly in the past - **Sheri Loeschen, Maureen McConaghy, and Jeffrey Silcock**.

I'd also like to acknowledge the volunteers who cover for me on the one Sunday per month I have off: It's usually **Steve Morihiro** and **Susan Shaw** who organize the services and provide the leadership. Often helping them are **Phil Chipman, Joel Ibanez, JoLynn Ibanez, Craig Spery, and Amy Tompkins**. I'm so grateful for Steve's and Susan's conscientiousness and discipline. When I'm on my day off I relax knowing full well that the music is in very good hands.

We are grateful for the instrumentalists we have in our congregation as well - Guitarist and Bass Guitarist **Phil Chipman**, Flutist **Sarah Kimball**, Guitarist **Amy Tompkins**, Harmonica player **Randy Kokal**, Pianist **Steve Morihiro**, Oboist **Amelia Russo-Neustadt**, Harpist **Barbara Schilling**, and Ukulele Player **Susan Shaw**. Our new A/V tech **Avery Brown** is also a wonderful singer and pianist who shared their talent at Music Under the Stars. Maybe someday we'll get them up to play something on a Sunday morning, too. If you play an instrument and would like to participate in music at OCUUC, just let me know so I can figure out the best way to fit you in.

Next time you see one of the people I've listed here, please tell them how the music at OCUUC inspires you, improves your mood, or challenges you. They dedicate many hours to their craft, and I want them to know how much we all are grateful for each and every one of them.

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 on Zoom during this part of the service, or, when attending the service in person, you may write your joy or sorrow for in-person share.



2022 Hearts and Hands Community Service Day

Newport – Mesa – Irvine
Interfaith Council

Saturday, November 19, 2022

For several years Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church (OCUUC) has partnered with the Newport Beach Church of Latter-Day Saints, and their Coordinator, **Jamie Day**, to assist in the *Hearts and Hands* event. This is a wonderful day of community service that allows many faiths to come together, share stories, socialize, have fun, and provide needed supplies to those less fortunate. Many of our congregation's young members have participated and had a great time in prior years. This year the focus is on un-housed women and women in shelters. Project volunteers are needed to fill small, zippered tote bags with period products, small journals, pens, lip balm, etc. OCUUC Stitchwits will be sewing the small zipper bags and will be organizing a "sew day." A collection table on Sundays will soon be available, in addition to a bin outside of the Church Office.



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Take a break..
Spend time with people..
Or just come for the movie!

Last month some of us first met for lunch, then we saw *3,000 Years of Longing*. I did not expect to like this movie. I thought it was going to be really loud both with audio and visually. But I ended up liking it on both counts and I had something to think about when it was done. On a scale of 1-10, in my humble opinion, a ...6? If you saw the movie let me know what you thought. Besides the movie, the company was wonderful.

Due to popular demand, and a vote, the Wednesday has changed to the 3rd Wednesday each month.

The theater does not seem to announce the movie selection in sync with our deadlines for *The Blast* or *The Reach* and I'm still learning the scheduling. Please send email requesting to be added to the moviegoers email list so I can keep you updated. moviegoers@ocuuc.org

On a last note, not a lot of people have been in the theater in the afternoon showings, so it is very easy to socially distance and a great selection of seats!

When: 3rd Wednesday of the month. Next date: Wed., Oct. 19th.

Time: The 3-4 o'clock showing. – tbd

Where: Regency South Coast Village
<https://regencymovies.com/main.php?theaterId=17>

The movie and time will be announced in *The Blast* and will be posted on Facebook.

Hope to see you there!

Tracey Daschbach
moviegoers@ocuuc.org

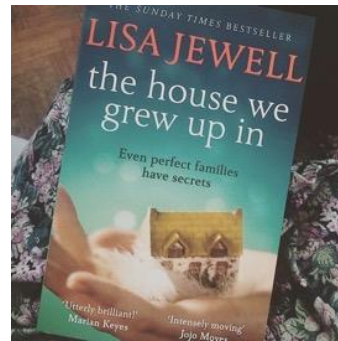


STITCHWITS

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 Stitch-Wit!

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.



FICTION BOOK GROUP

The October selection for the Fiction Book Group is *The House We Grew Up In* by Lisa Jewell. Our group meets online at 7:00pm on Monday evening, Oct. 3rd. You can find the link on the church website. All are welcome to join our usual lively discussions.

Plan ahead: The November 7th meeting will discuss *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Harmel.

Co-chairs: Eva Goodwin-Noriega and
Marcia Hackett



Saturday, October 1

Free Flu Shot Clinic -9:30am OCUUC
StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 2

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom
Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom
RE & Youth Group, 10:30am Activity & Youth Rooms
AHA Group, 12:15 pm on Zoom
Owl Class 12:30pm Suite 7
Dream Group, 12:15pm Youth Room

Monday, October 3

Widening the Circle 4p Zoom
OCUUC Fiction Book Group 7:00pm on Zoom

Tuesday, October 4

Who was Jesus? Class 7pm on Zoom
Widening the Circle 7pm Zoom

Wednesday, October 5

Widening the Circle 7pm Suite 7

Thursday, October 6

Widening the Circle 2pm Zoom
Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, October 8

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 9

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom
RE & Youth Group, 10:30am Activity & Youth Rooms
Writing Club, 11:45am Victoria Room

Monday, October 10

Anti-racism Reading Group, 7pm on Zoom

Tuesday, October 11

Who was Jesus? Class 7pm on Zoom

Wednesday, October 12

Comm. On Ministry, 6pm

Thursday, October 13

Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, October 15

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 16

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom
Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom
RE & Youth Group, 10:30am Activity & Youth Rooms
Nonfiction Book Club, 12:30pm on Zoom
OWL 12:30pm Suite 7

Tuesday, October 18

Caring Circle, 12:00pm on Zoom
Who was Jesus? Class 7pm on Zoom

Wednesday, October 19

Moviegoers, 3 or 4pm, offsite
Finance Council, 5pm on Zoom

Thursday, October 20

Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, October 22

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 23

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom
Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom
RE & Youth Group, 10:30am Activity Youth Rooms
Women's Circle 12:00pm on Zoom
OWL 12:30pm Suite 7

Monday, October 24

Anti-racism Reading Group, 7pm on Zoom

Tuesday, October 25

Who was Jesus? Class 7pm on Zoom

Wednesday, October 26

Cluster Meeting 10am Youth Room
Actionable Anti-racism Group 1pm on Zoom
Board of Trustees Mtg 7pm on Zoom

Thursday, October 27

Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, October 29

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, October 30

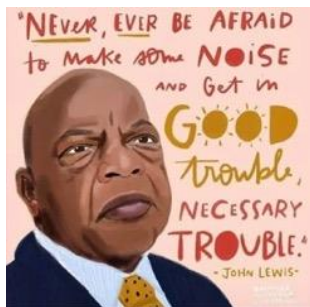
Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Room and on Zoom
Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall and on Zoom
RE & Youth Group, 10:30am Activity Youth Rooms
OWL 12:30pm Suite



MEDITATION GROUP

Our OCUUC Meditation Group meets most Sundays at 9:45am — via Zoom...but **please note we will not meet on October 9 and will resume on October 16th.**

Meditation and mindfulness practice are so important for our well-being! Please join our community via Zoom. 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](#).



GOOD TROUBLE CONGREGATION

At our Annual Meeting in June, we agreed that we would like to be a "Good Trouble Congregation".

(<https://www.uuthevote.org/goodtroublecongregation/>).

One of the best ways we can live our values to is get personally involved in democracy and work on elections, whether it is getting out the vote or working on issues and campaigns. We are putting the final touches on getting this program together. Watch the upcoming Blasts for more information.



ANTI-RACISM GROUP

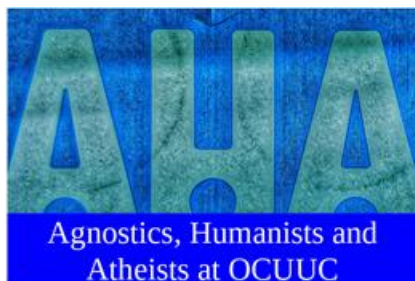
The members of this group gather monthly on zoom to discuss individual and group anti-racism projects, get feedback and offer support. These projects include, among others, supporting and monitoring legislative action, engaging in UU initiatives, building congregational involvement, and community interaction. The meetings are open to interested persons. We meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m., closing no later than 2:30 p.m. For more Information or to get the link to join, contact the Facilitator, Phyllis Daniel, at:

phyllisdaniel@sbcglobal.net



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.



AGNOSTICS, HUMANISTS AND ATHEISTS

Welcome to the AHA Group – A Monthly Look at the Role Religion Plays in Our World.

Our next meeting: **Sunday, October 2, 2022, at 12:15pm** on Zoom.

Find the Zoom meeting link on our website [calendar page](#). This Sunday we're going to take some time to discuss the latest Ken Burns Documentary, *The U.S. and the Holocaust* <https://www.pbs.org/kenburns/us-and-the-holocaust>

U.U. TWELVE PRINCIPLES

The inherent worth and dignity of every person * Justice, equity and compassion in human relations * Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations * A free and responsible search for truth and meaning * The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large * The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all * Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Unitarian Universalism.

OCTOBER PLATE SHARE



The Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of California (UUJMCA) was founded in 2002 to lift up the prophetic voice of Unitarian Universalism and UUs at the state capitol in legislative and policy decisions. Over the years, UUJMCA's advanced justice in our state by cultivating and connecting leaders and communities, and empowering the public voice of those who share UU values and principles.

UUJMCA works towards collective liberation by supporting and using the powerful network of UUs in California, putting our faith into action with accountable relationships with our coalition partners and frontline communities. Our work focuses on four broad "issues areas" - climate justice, economic justice, immigrant justice, and racial justice & abolition.

Through congregationally based trainings, regional gatherings, advocacy days, and immersive experiential programs like our SALT Young Adult Fellowship and UUBorders Journeys, UUJMCA works to ensure that California UUs have access to and participate in statewide justice education, advocacy, and witness that deepens their faith and changes life for the better in California.