



SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 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.

- Nov. 6: Growth. Rev. Sian Wiltshire
- Nov. 13: Lucky to be Here in the First Place!
– Rev. Tom Owen-Towle
- Nov. 20: Honoring Resilience.
– Rev. Sian Wiltshire
- Nov. 27: The Changing Landscape of Unitarian Universalism
– Rev. Sian Wiltshire

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Nancy Loughrey, President, Board of Trustees

The Board met October 26th and created some goals for ourselves for this year. We will need everyone working on it together to be most effective. We were committed to creating goals that are understandable, will guide action, and will be clear whether we achieved them. Hold us accountable!

Focus Area	Board Goal
More Visibility in the Community	We need another month to create an accountable goal.
Centering Families	Increase the visibility of families in the service with specific roles. Make childcare possibilities for events easier to access.
New sanctuary – non-anxious presence	The congregation is well informed and supportive about the sanctuary throughout the process. A plan is in place for making resources available as needed.
Bring 8 th Principle to the Congregation	By the Annual Meeting, the congregation is ready to consider a vote on the Eighth Principle. Leaders are in place and there has been adequate opportunities for discussion and learning.

ORANGE COAST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH



Many Different Beliefs,
One Loving Community



JOIN FOR OUR SERVICES
SUNDAYS AT 10:30
<https://zoom.us/j/3931579606>

Please contact any Board member if you would like more information or are willing to help. Our next Board meeting is Saturday, November 19th from 9am-12pm in the Victoria Room. We always welcome observers, but appreciate advance notice.

Last month I mentioned in this article that a Town Hall Meeting was possible in November to update everyone on the status of construction. The first plan check comments came back two weeks later than promised, so we are slipping the schedule again. We will get there!

Nancy Loughrey
president@ocuuc.org



CHANGE

There are some forms of change that come easy for me. For example, I've probably lived in 50-60 different places in my life; I'm used to moving around and while I don't always enjoy the journey, I always enjoy the destination.

I haven't yet found a place that I don't like. And I love to learn – you all know I've always got some new hobby on my plate, and I try to make the services diverse and intellectually stimulating as well as growth stimulating.

But there are some areas of my life that I don't enjoy change. I don't like that I often have to start over making friends whenever I move. I'm not someone who makes friends easily – not deep friendships. I like the ones I have! And yet, I always do find new friends

and love and appreciate them. And I don't like changing my routines. My routines help me focus and get stuff done. Yet I'm in a job in which my routine is constantly changing – and needs to be depending on the circumstances.

And so change happens whether I like it or not. What about you? What kinds of change do you like and what kinds don't you like? Yours might be very different from mine and that's ok. We need people to move us along in different ways. But remember: whatever you like or dislike, change is going to happen.

With love,
Rev. Sian



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:

Nov. 6: Growth. How do we grow our soul? Or our character, if you prefer. Personal growth is a billion-dollar industry and yet it seems like we aren't getting more enlightened. What's up with that? Come explore these ideas with Rev. Sian.

Nov. 13: 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.

Nov. 20: Honoring Resilience. On this day when we honor *Transgender Day of Resilience and Remembrance*, what has history and religion taught us about resilience – the good and the bad? Rev. Sian

Nov. 27: The changing landscape of Unitarian Universalism. Our denomination is changing—some love it and some don't. What can we learn about our past that will help us navigate our future? Rev. Sian



My family and I had a wonderful time at our *All-Church Weekend* at Camp de Benneville Pines the second weekend of October. We hadn't been there for five years, and our youngest had never been there at all.

Camp de Benneville Pines is very special to my husband and me, as we attended *UU Young Adult Camp* there for many years before we became parents. It was amazing watching it become a sacred place for our kids, too.

Most of our OCUUC Religious Education families were able to attend, and it was wonderful to see our children and youth flourishing in the mountains. They enjoyed archery, basketball, compass-making, wilderness shelter building, s'mores around the fireplace, participating in the variety show, and more. I saw existing friendships deepening and new friendships forming. My 6-year-old had a blast hanging out with the teens (who were all so welcoming and kind to him) and my 4-year-old made the rounds with the over-70 crowd. What a delight to witness that kind of multi-generational community in action.

There are lots of opportunities to get up to Camp de Benneville Pines in the coming

months. Individuals age 11 and up are invited to the Fall Volunteer Work Camp November 13th-15th – free accommodations and meals in exchange for some “sweat equity.”

Or how about coming to camp and experiencing a hassle-free Thanksgiving Celebration (November 24th-27th) that will be the best you've ever had?

And with the arrival of winter will come UU Senior High Winter Camp, December 28th-January 2nd, for youth in grades 9-12.

I hope you and your families are able to find your way to the mountains sometime soon!



FALL AUCTION

Foot massages, ethnic dinners, museum tours, ornament and cookie exchanges; these are just a few of the items already donated and awaiting your bids!

'Tis the Season is our Fall Auction, Saturday, November 12, 2022 at 2:00 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 bidding is up and running.

www.togetherauction.com/ocuuuc

We will auction most events and items live, but we will continue doing a silent auction online for most items. This allows for friends to participate in the auction from far and 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.

If you have enjoyed Auction 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 OCUUC. 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 the most enjoyable things we do. It makes life wonderful to spend time with new and old friends.

More "nuts and bolts" info is on our church webpage. Reach out to the Auction Committee if you have any questions. We will be in the courtyard on Sunday after service and our email is auction@ocuuuc.org

See you all at 'Tis The Season!

JOLYNN JONES IBANEZ



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@ocuuuc.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.



OUR HOME FOR REFUGEE FAMILY

OCUUC's HFR (Home for Refugees) team has been working with the Kozi family for a few months. This is a large family of 9. Ahmadullah and Shughla are the parents, Lailoma is Ahmadullah's sister and the four sons are Farid, Ahmad Shah, Esmat and Aman. Farid is married to Ziba and they have a daughter, Haya, who just entered

transitional kindergarten. They live together in a large house in Anaheim.

Each of the five team members have an area of responsibility, such as education, job coaching, finance, medical, language acquisition, etc.

We all work together to help the family members feel welcome and to get them the services they need. **The most pressing need they have is jobs for the 4 sons.** The women are taking ESL classes online and Haya is fitting in well at school.

The Kozis are lovely people, and they welcome us into their home and are very grateful for the assistance we have given them. Shugla is a gifted cook, and we are always happy when they ask us to join them for a meal. We have had two big meals together, a barbeque in the park and a potluck birthday party. We have tried to make them feel welcome in our community and I believe the team members have been gifted with this family's friendship as well.

We hope to arrange for you to meet this lovely family soon. Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you for being a part of our loving community that reaches out to people in need.

Your Home for Refugees Team:
Rev. Sian Wiltshire
Marilyn Giss
Paula Peterson
Barbara Schilling
Judith Stamper

MOVIE GOERS!

Mark your calendar...Next movie date Wed Nov. 16...Same place. South Coast village theatre...Showing between 1-3...Watch THE BLAST for details...For up-to-date info, email moviegoers@ocuuc.org and get added to the emailing list.

Hope to see you there,
Tracey Daschbach



NEW SANCTUARY UPDATE

Here is the latest update provided to our new OCUUC sanctuary project team from Toni Pyjar, our project architect contact at *domusstudio*, who is our primary liaison with the City of Costa Mesa.

"We have some good news for you. We received some plan check comments from the City! Upon first review, they appear to have no significant architectural impact on the project scope. We will request clarification of some of their comments and; of course, advocate with the church's interests in mind.

"Specifically, we received comments regarding Architectural, Electrical, Mechanical, Structural, Accessibility, CAL Green, Plumbing, and Energy.

"Last week Costa Mesa Sanitary District contacted us by email, asking that we apply for a sewer permit for the cap and abandonment of the existing sewer. That application was made, and we are awaiting their fee invoice.

"We also heard from the interim Planner, who reviewed the site photometric plan, and determined that the photometrics are acceptable everywhere except one location, at the southwest corner of the building. He recommended increasing the wattage of the lamp in that one fixture. That's good news, if the wattage can be increased.

We still expect to receive comments from Landscape, Planning, the Fire Dept. and Mesa Water."



Turkey Basket Drive: Thanksgiving Dinner Food Collection

OCUUC is once again collecting Turkey Baskets (boxes, really) to contribute to *The Center OC's* annual effort of providing a special Thanksgiving meal to families in need in our community. **The Center OC** provides these Thanksgiving Dinner boxes to hundreds of families each November, and it is an honor to be a part of this blessing.

In the past, we have collected only complete Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes from people in our church community. We will still be donating complete dinner boxes but this year, we are also accepting donations of the individual items to make up the boxes, as well as financial donations so we can buy whatever items we are short on. **The Center OC** provides a specific list of items each box must include. You can find the shopping list below, on the church patio, or we are happy to email it to you.

Financial donations are especially appreciated as we need to buy a pie and grocery store gift card for each box. We are grateful for your donation of individual items, complete boxes, or financial contributions, whatever you can give.

We will be accepting donations on the patio at church on Sunday, November 6 and 13. You can call Sarah Jones to arrange for drop off at the church during the week. Please email Sarah if you have any questions, admin@ocuuc.org. Last year we donated 12 Thanksgiving dinner boxes. Let's see if we can't help even more this year!

Thank you so much for your generosity

Sarah Jones, Church Administrator
Judith Stamper, VP Programs

- \$25 Grocery Store Gift Card
- 1 box of stuffing
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 box of dry potatoes
- 1 can of candied yams
- 2 cans of green beans
- 2 cans of corn
- 1 jar of turkey gravy
- 1 bag of rolls
- 1 Pumpkin Pie (not frozen)



HEARTS AND HANDS

Our Hearts & Hands project is well under way. Here's how OCUUC congregants, and our youth can get involved:

1. *Bring donations of period products to the church patio on **November 6th** and help to fill up our bin for this event. You can also bring donations to church during the week; the bin will be in the church reception area for your donations until **November 12**. Of course, we will also take financial donations! These can be brought to Church and provided to the person at the Hearts & Hands table after services.*
2. *Come to the Hearts & Hands event day on **November 19** at the LDS Church in Newport Beach. Our volunteers have*

participated for several years. Work on decorating our tote bags, filling the bags with gifts, or help many other groups with their projects. A delicious lunch is available for the volunteers. You can also donate old glasses and toys. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet many friendly people who want to make a difference in our community. Many of our youth have helped in past events. See the complete list of activities ([here](#))

Cory Brown



WIDENING THE CIRCLE COUNCIL

Newly created by Board approval, this council will be a team with the purpose of creating awareness around anti-racism and anti-oppression issues.

It would do this through creating opportunities for people to learn about and discuss these issues, either in open discussion, through workshops, forums, and/or bringing in speakers. Participants will also work with **Rev. Sian**, at her request, to plan worship opportunities. The goal is to ensure that we all have a chance to process, learn and grow in a loving and supportive manner.

All members of the congregation are invited to indicate interest in service on this council.

Leadership has not been determined, but Phyllis Daniel is the point person and questions and indications of interest should be sent to her at

phyllisdaniel@sbcglobal.net

or text her at 310-994-5421.



WHAT IS THE 8TH PRINCIPLE?

The Board set a goal of having a vote on whether to support the *8th Principle* by our Annual Meeting. What does that mean?

The *8th Principle* been proposed by a groundswell of congregations as an additional principle to be added to our beloved *Seven Principles*. It calls for anti-racism and anti-oppression to be central to congregational life and our community building. About 150 of our congregations have already adopted it. It reads:

"We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse and multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."

A lot of words, indeed. In the meantime, the UUA Bylaws mandate that we re-examine our *Purposes and Principles* starting in 2023. They have already stated they intend to incorporate the intent of an *8th Principle* into a new proposal. More information can be found [here](#).

Whatever happens officially, the Board thinks this is a great time to have a conversation. We have had growing interest and commitment to anti-racism. The ambiguity of the UUA direction may allow us to focus on the intent rather than wordsmithing. These conversations can be challenging. It has been said that process is our most important product. May it be so.

We are developing a timeline for discussion and engagement this Spring to allow lots of time for discernment prior to June. Please stay tuned.



STITCHWITS

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

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

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



MEDITATION GROUP

Our OCUUC Meditation Group meets every Sunday at 9:45am in the Youth Room and via Zoom. Meditation and mindfulness practice are so important for our well-being! Please join our community! We will conduct

a short but nourishing guided meditation, then share our experiences along the path. All are welcome!

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



AGNOSTICS, HUMANISTS AND ATHEISTS

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. The Zoom link is on the [church calendar](#).

For more information, email programs@ocuuc.org.



Tuesday, November 1

Who was Jesus? Class 7pm on Zoom

Thursday, November 3

Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, November 5

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, November 6

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Rm & Zoom

Worship Service 10:30am Daniels Hall & Zoom

RE & Youth Group, 10:30am on site

AHA Group, 12:15 pm on Zoom

Owl Class 1:00pm Suite 7

Dream Group, 12:30pm Youth Room

Monday, November 7

OCUUC Fiction Book Group 7:00pm on Zoom

Wednesday, Nov. 9

Comm. On Ministry 6pm

Thursday, November 10

Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, November 12

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

FALL AUCTION, 2PM

Sunday, November 13

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Rm & Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall & Zoom

RE & Youth Group, 10:30am on site

Writing Club, 11:45am Victoria Room

Owl Class 1:00pm Suite 7

Monday, November 14

Anti-racism Reading Group, 7pm on Zoom

Tuesday, November 15

Caring Circle 12pm on Zoom

Wednesday, November 16

Moviegoers, 1 or 2pm, offsite

Finance Council, 5pm on Zoom

Thursday, November 17

Choir Rehearsal 7pm Daniels Hall

Saturday, November 19

Board of Trustees, 9am Victoria Room

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, November 20

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Rm & Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall & Zoom

RE & Youth Group, 10:30am on site

Nonfiction Book Club, 12:30pm on Zoom

OWL 1:00pm Suite 7

Wednesday, November 23

Cluster Meeting, 10am Youth Room

Actionable Anti-racism Group, 1pm on Zoom

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving Day

Saturday, November 26

StitchWits, 10:30am on Zoom

Sunday, November 27

Meditation Group, 9:45am Youth Rm & Zoom

Worship Service, 10:30am Daniels Hall & Zoom

RE & Youth Group, 10:30am on site

Women's Circle 12:00pm on Zoom

Monday, November 28

Anti-racism Reading Group, 7pm on Zoom



FICTION BOOK GROUP

The November selection for the Fiction Book Group is *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Harmel. Our group meets online at 7:00pm on Monday evening, Nov. 7th. You can find the link on the church website. All are welcome to join our usual lively discussions.

Co-chairs: Eva Goodwin-Noriega and Marcia Hackett



SURVEY?

If you purchased tickets or were a sponsor of this year's Film Festival, you hopefully received a brief on-line survey recently via e-mail to fill out and submit to let us know your opinions and suggestions for improvement.

If you attended and did not receive a survey, please let Linda Spery know at lindaspery@gmail.com and she will get one out to you via e-mail. We hope to get all responses, which are anonymous, as soon as possible. We will make the results available in the REACH once the results have been compiled.



ACTIONABLE 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 to celebrate someone or for yourself, please see [Sandie Martin](#) after the service to reserve your date. You can also email her at sandiemartin@mac.com.

Let her know if you'd like to bring your own flowers on a particular date, or she can make an arrangement for you at a cost of \$20 cash.

NOVEMBER PLATE SHARE



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.

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



Editor's mea culpa:

in the October issue of the Reach, we published a lovely graphic of the UU Principles, erroneously titled "U.U. TWELVE PRINCIPLES". There are, of course, seven Principles and an upcoming discussion for adding an eighth.