



The REACH

Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church

"Seeking truth, Building just communities, Caring for one another."

1259 Victoria Street, Costa Mesa, California 92627 • (949) 646-4652

New Summer Sunday Service Schedule

This July and August OCUUC will offer one service on Sundays.

The service will begin at 10:30 a.m. and be followed by a coffee hour. Plan to join us for an inspiring and thought-provoking series of Sunday services during the summer months.

We will return to our two-service format the Sunday after Labor Day.

Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Traditional service with meditation and contemplation

11:15 a.m. Celebratory, family-style service for the young and the young at heart

June 7: "Doubt" Rev. Karen Stoyanoff

Music: Orange Coast Choir will sing "Cherish Your Doubt" by UU composer Elizabeth Alexander.

June 14: "Celebrating Universal Human Rights" Rev. Karen Stoyanoff

Music: Beth Syverson Nakao will provide special music

June 21: "An Ethical Conundrum: Is There a Moral Absolute?" Rev. Karen Stoyanoff

Music: Beth Syverson Nakao will provide special music

June 28: "Ministry Sunday" Keith Jenkins and Marcia Hackett

Music: Beth Syverson Nakao will provide special music

July 5: "Preserving the Wall of Separation Preserves A Free Society" Stephanie Campbell

Nursery care is available 9:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m..

A complete program of Religious Exploration for children and youth, ages 3–18, is provided at the 11:15 a.m. service

Wednesday Services

June 3: "Exploring Trees" AJ Blackwood

June 17: "Water" Summer Albayati-Dadah

July 1: "Surprise Meditation" Ted Lundholm

7:00 p.m. Mediation Orientation 7:30 p.m. Service 8:45 p.m.
Social Gathering

Childcare will be provided with a RSVP.

Please contact AJ Blackwood internminister@ocuuc.org.

Saturday Service

7:30 p.m. "Summer Solstice Ritual"
. Rayna Hamre and Beth Syverson Nakao



REACH

Information & Scheduling

Please note that the REACH is an widely published newsletter and all material submitted is subject to general public publication including names, email addresses and phone numbers.

Deadline is the 21st of every month via e-mail

Please submit all material to reach@ocuuc.org. Material is subject to editing and formatting by the REACH staff for both content and format. Material received after the deadline is not guaranteed to be published. Only OCUUC related material will be published.

If you are unable to submit your information via email please contact Merrie Lee Wooten, (949) 514-0440.

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OCUUC

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9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Sunday–Thursday

Closed Friday & Saturday

(949) 646-4652 phone

(949) 646-9016 fax

Sermon Information

June 3 “Exploring Trees”

We will be exploring trees as gifts of inspiration and beauty.

June 7 “Doubt”

What role does doubt play in our lives, and is it constructive or destructive? How do we, as Unitarian Universalists, use doubt as part of our theology? How does doubt affect the way we lead our daily lives? The themes of this service will be woven together with readings from the play “Doubt,” by John Patrick Shanley. Readers will be Keith Jenkins, Margaret Armstrong, and Rayna Hamre.

June 14 “Celebrating Universal Human Rights”

It is 60 years since the United Nations created the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and around the world, country after country has signed on to this treatise. The United States is one of the last hold-outs. We need to honor this wonderful document as part of UUSC Justice Sunday. Join Nick Simon, Jane Jepson, and Karen Stoyanoff as they explore this document and what it has meant in our world.

June 17: “Water”

We will be exploring how water is not only a source of physical life but how it can also quench our spiritual needs.

June 20 “Summer Solstice Ritual”

Our second annual Summer Solstice Ritual will be similar to the very popular Winter Solstice Singing Ritual. Organized by Rayna Hamre and Beth Syverson Nakao, this will be an evening of music and ecology, celebrating the beautiful but fragile Earth on which we live. Come and celebrate the interdependent web of existence through poetry and song.

June 21 “An ethical conundrum: is there a moral absolute?”

There are those who believe the only possibility for a moral life is one lived out of a sense of moral absolutism—that there is one right choice in any ethical dilemma and that it is prescribed by the teachings of a faith tradition. We, as UUs, don’t usually agree with this point of view. Today’s service will explore the implications of moral relativism and how it informs our lives as UUs.

June 28 “Ministry Sunday”

Keith Jenkins and Marcia Hackett will focus on ministers and ministry. We will ask congregants to think about what these two topics mean in our lives.

July 1: “Surprise Meditation”

It’s a surprise Come and try a new form of meditation.

July 5 “Preserving the Wall of Separation Preserves A Free Society.”

The First Amendment provides for freedom from religion as well as freedom of religion. Americans are free to belong to the religious organization of their choice. Simultaneously, they need not accept any belief. No matter what the choice, each and every American maintains full status as a citizen to define his moral conscience. It is citizenship through freedom and the separation of church and state that leads us to be a moral nation.

Calendar

Unless otherwise noted all events occur at OCUUC

June

1

7:30 p.m.—Adult Programs: **Book Discussion Group**: *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society*, presented by Tru Gorrie

3

7:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **Contemplative Service** “Exploring Trees”

4

6:30 p.m.—Music: **MUUsical Magicians**: Rehearsal for Choir Concert

7:00 p.m.—Interweave: **Telling Our Story**: An OCEC Interfaith Journey to Justice

University Synagogue, 3400 Michelson Dr, Irvine, CA 92612

6

2:30 p.m. —Congregational: **Semi-Annual Auction**

5:00 p.m. —Congregational: **Semi-Annual Auction Dinner**

7

9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.—**Sunday Service**: “Doubt”

10:30 a.m.—Music: **Family Choir**: Rehearsal for Choir Concert

11:15 a.m.—RECY: **Teacher Appreciation** and **End of the Year Party**

12:30 p.m.—Adult Programs: **The Women’s Circle**

12:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **LUUnch BUUnch**, Souplantation (Scrip), 1555 Adams Ave, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

12:45 p.m.—Music: **MUUsical Magicians**: Rehearsal for Choir Concert

10

6:00 p.m.—Adult Programs: **Reel Story**, *Dogma* with discussion.

11

7:00 p.m.—Music: All Orange Coast Choir: **Dress Rehearsal for Choir Concert**

12

10:00 a.m.—Adult Programs: **Jefferson Bible Discussion**, Mimi’s Café (Scrip), 18461 Brookhurst St, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

13

8:00 a.m.—ATM: **Monthly Cooking**

4:00 p.m.—**Annual Congregational Meeting**

7:00 p.m.—**Spring Choir Concert**: “Immigration Stories”

14

9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.—**Sunday Service**: “Celebrating Universal Human Rights”

10:00 a.m.—**Blood Pressure Screening**

11:15 a.m.—RECY: **Summer Program**, “In Our Hands”

12:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **LUUnch BUUnch**, Taco Mesa, 647 W 19th St, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

12:15 p.m.—Adult Programs: **Knitwits**

17

7:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **Contemplative Service** “Water”

20

8:30 a.m.—Adult Programs: **HikUurs**, Irvine Regional Park (Jamboree Rd & Chapman Ave), Orange, CA 92869

7:30 p.m.—**Service**: “Summer Solstice Ritual”

21

9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.—**Sunday Service**: “An Ethical Conundrum: Is There a Moral Absolute?”

12:00 p.m.—Communications: **REACH Deadline**: E-mail: reach@ocuuc.org

12:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **LUUnch BUUnch**, Panera Bread 235 E 17th St Costa Mesa, CA 92627

24–28

8:00 a.m.—UUA: **General Assembly**, Salt Lake City, UT

26

10:00 a.m.—Adult Programs: **Jefferson Bible Discussion**, Mimi’s Café (Scrip), 18461 Brookhurst St, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

27

8:30 a.m.—Adult Programs: **HikUurs**, Irvine Regional Park (Jamboree Rd & Chapman Ave), Orange, CA 92869

28

9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.—**Sunday Service**: “Ministry Sunday”
11:15 a.m.—RECY: **Social Action Field Trip**, Children and Youth

12:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **LUUnch BUUnch**, Ruby’s Diner, 1 Main St, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

12:15 p.m.—Adult Programs: **Knitwits**

July—NEW SERVICE TIMES!

5

10:30 a.m.—**Sunday Service**: “On Separation of Church and State”

11:45 a.m.—Young Adults: **LUUnch BUUnch**, Thai Dishes, 10065 Garfield Ave, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

6

7:30 p.m.—Adult Programs: **Book Discussion Group**, *Vernon God Little*, presented by Marcia Hackett

8

7:30 p.m.—Young Adults: **Contemplative Service**, “Surprise Meditation”

Reserve the Date

8/9—**Bloodmobile Drive**



Casual Comments from Our Minister

We have work to do! But we knew that ahead of time, didn't we? No matter what the outcome of the California Supreme Court's decision, there would be justice work to be done. So I'm saddened, but not surprised. Already there is talk of new ballot measures and further court cases, so there will be plenty that we can do in moving forward toward what I believe is our ultimate result: equal marriage for all!

The other emotion I'm feeling in large measure is outrage. I hope you are too! I heard Wednesday morning that there is already a move on the part of supporters of Prop 8 to recall the one judge who voted to declare Prop 8 invalid. This absolutely can't be ignored as it actively seeks to undermine the democratic process. If judges can be removed for interpreting the law differently from the way a largely non-legally-educated group of citizens think is right, then our courts are nothing more than an arm of public sentiment. Checks and balances have

been part of our state and national government specifically to prevent a group of individuals from usurping the power to decide issues unchecked. To suggest that a group of citizens, no matter how sincere their concerns might be, know more about interpretation of law than those who have devoted their lives and their education to this task is tantamount to handing over any just concept of legality. It violates the intent, if not the established process, of those who framed our government.

So, while we are working to establish marriage rights (and rites!) for same sex couples, let's not forget to also support the judge who voted for it. He needs our help too.

Standing on the side of love!

minister@ocuuc.org



On Board—Notes from the President

This will be my last *REACH* article as President, and I want to start it by saying what an honor and joy it has been to be your president for the last two years. Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church is a wonderful community, and I have enjoyed the opportunity to help us all live our principles and mission. We really do try to practice what we preach!

Our Annual Meeting is Saturday, June 13th at 4 PM in the Sanctuary. This will be a challenging meeting—I regret to inform you that the economy has arrived on our doorstep. It is only recently that we fell behind budget on pledges, and at this time, it looks like 2009–2010 pledges will be \$30,000–\$35,000 less than the current year. It seems that everyone is struggling with budgets these days, and we are no exception. The Finance Council and the Board will be working hard over the next few weeks to provide the most accurate information, as well as make some recommendations on how to address this problem.

Each person can help by making sure their current pledge is paid to-date, and next year's pledge has been submitted.

Obviously, more pledges will make everything easier.

However, I want to be sure that we all remember that each of us has inherent worth and dignity as part of this community. The recession has hurt just about everyone in the congregation in some way, some more severely than others. We need each and every person, regardless of any gifts of time or money they can offer at this time. Our collective worth, and perception of ourselves as a UU congregation, is far more important to me than the numbers in a budget. Each person's presence shows our strength to each other and the greater community.

We will meet on the 13th, and do the hard work of being a community. We will also laugh, sing a little, honor the year we are completing, and plan for next year. It will be good to be together. In the words of Albert Schweitzer,

See **President**, next page



June Recipient of Church Donations Community Service Committee

Maurice Giss,
communityservice@ocuuc.org

Orange Coast Children and Youth

have been chosen as this month's recipients of one-half of our Sunday offertory. Camping programs at de Benneville Pines offer wonderful opportunities for our younger UUs to have summer fun and to participate in nature oriented and character building activities. Camp is not cheap but neither are we! Some of our young people, right here at OCUUC, may need a little help so that they can go to camp. With all that we do there is nothing more important than nurturing our children. Scholarship assistance will be overseen by the Children's Religious Exploration Committee (CREC) Mary Lundholm *re@ocuuc.org*. For more information on camps contact Paul Gethard, *camp@ocuuc.org*.

If you have an organization you would like to nominate as a Shared Plate Recipient please contact the Community Service Committee.



President, from previous page

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame with us."

May our collective flame be strong and bright.

Nancy Loughrey
president@ocuuc.org



Proposed Slate of Officers Nominating Committee

Suzi Cassidy
nominators@ocuuc.org

The following is the proposed Slate of Officers for 2009–2010 year (as of May 21, 2009). The complete list is scheduled to be published by May 31.

+To be voted upon at annual meeting

Officers (one year term until 2010):

President—Keith Jenkins +
VP Programs—Mary Paliescheskey Lundholm +
VP Finance—Nancy Loughrey +
Recorder—Maureen McConaghy +
Treasurer—Bob Loeschen +
Bursar—Charles Gordon +

Trustees (three-year terms until):

2010—Eva Lu Goodwin-Noriega
2010—Summer Bayati Dadah
2011—OPEN (finish Mary L.'s term)+
2011—Earl Hardenbrook
2012—Rachel Smith +
2012—Crystal Gips +
2012—OPEN (new 3-year term) +

Nominators (three year terms until):

2010—Suzi Cassidy
2010—Mike Harmanos
2011—Molly Rossow
2011—OPEN (finish Pat McCully's term) +
2012—Ken Small +
2012—Margaret Armstrong +

Stewards (three year terms until):

2012—Randy Kokal +
2011—Sandra Kirkpatrick
2010—Bob Krueter

Additional Contact Information:

Mary Lundholm
VP Programs
programs@ocuuc.org

Barbara Davia
VP Finance
finance@ocuuc.org



Religious Exploration

I have been asked “What is an Explorer” and what is “RECY?” These are excellent questions. RECY is an acronym, it stands for Religious Exploration for Children and Youth, which is the

religious education program at OCUUC. An Explorer is a child or youth who participates in RECY, pronounced “ree-see.” The name was changed a few months ago but it hasn’t caught on yet so please help me institute the name change by reminding members and friends.

This summer RECY will be “Creating Peace and Justice with our UU Principles.” The summer program will be “In Our Hands,” a Unitarian Universalist social justice curriculum that promotes peace and justice. In conjunction with “In Our Hands,” RECY will host special guest speakers from the congregation to talk about what they do in their own lives to promote peace and justice. Explorers will also actively work towards creating social justice through volunteering, special projects, and field trips. It will be a busy summer. Stop by the RECY table on Sundays and say hello.

In peace, *Katelynn Riva*, Director of Religious Exploration, (619) 994-8548 dre@ocuuc.org



MusicCorner

This is OCUUC’s vision: “OCUUC is a vibrant & open religious community of 400–500 members and families creating a highly visible and respected church through outreach & service to others.” And here’s how our Music Ministries are helping to make that vision a reality:

- Half of the audience members at the Three Zithers concert had never been to our church before
- The June 13 choir concert addresses immigration, a hot topic in anti-immigrant Costa Mesa!
- A dozen choir members traveled to Arizona to sing at District Assembly last month
- Our choir will sing at the OCEC Interfaith Marriage Equality vigil on June 4, 2009

Beth Syverson Nakao, Director of Music Ministries, (714) 376-6666 musicdirector@ocuuc.org



Connecting Our Community

Our vision of OCUUC is a vibrant group providing social action programs. In order to operate a fiscally sound program, we need to increase our

income.

SCRIP is a gift card program where you purchase gift cards/certificates from all your favorite places to shop. The businesses then donate a portion of the proceeds back to OCUUC. This is a painless way we fund our programs, you can help by shopping with SCRIP at local grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants. A family spending \$100 a week on groceries could provide OCUUC with over \$156 each year. If only 100 members did the same, OCUUC would get over \$15,600. Just think how much you can help OCUUC without spending anything extra. Here are some ideas for scrip purchases.

Gas, Groceries, Restaurants, Airplanes, Hotels, Shoes, Clothing, Prescriptions
Love and Light, *Mary Lundholm*
Volunteer Coordinator
(714) 841-0509
volunteers@ocuuc.org



Notes from the Nurse

As June arrives, our thoughts turn to summer fun and I want to help you keep it that way! I hope you have noticed that alcohol-based hand cleaner has appeared

at the donut table and on the kitchen pass-through. The arrival of H1N1 flu has spurred me to emphasize the importance of hand washing. Pause a moment and think about everything and everyone you have touched since you just washed your hands. Do you really want to put those fingers in your mouth right now?

Adair Small, Congregation Nurse
(949) 786-9149
nurse@ocuuc.org



Summer Youth Curriculum

Youth will teach their own classes this summer on Sundays, with the help of adult supervisors. Youth Group will include

grades 7–12. We are calling on any adults who would like to be a part of this new summer experience with Youth Group!

Peace,
Summer Albayati-Dadah,
 Youth Advisor
youthadvisor@ocuuc.org



Reaching OUT!!!

Over the last month if you looked around the congregation you probably saw a few new faces. This past month has been exciting for the Young Adults and Interweave (Queer/LGBT Group). We had a number of recent visitors begin engaging in our community. Thank you to everyone for your warm welcoming to them. I would like to especially welcome Karin and Chris who both signed the member book this month. Please join me in welcoming them and continuing to welcome all the members of the Young Adults and LGBT community that come through our doors.

Living Wholly Engaged,
AJ Blackwood, Intern Minister
 (714) 948-0460
internminister@ocuuc.org

From the Office ...

Do you receive a hard copy of the *REACH* by snail mail? Please consider accessing it online at OCUUC.org. You can read it onscreen, save it, or print it and save the church postage and labor. Please let me know and I'll change your status.

Sarah Jones, Administrator
 (949) 646-4652,
admin@ocuuc.org

Volunteer Opportunities

A group you are passionate about needs you. Contact Mary Lundholm volunteers@ocuuc.org

Financial Committees in Need

Committee	Need	Contact
Auction	June 6, 2009—2:30 p.m. Gathering; 3:00 p.m. Auction; 5:00 p.m. Dinner Setup, Cleanup, Selling Raffle tickets. Offer to Host an event then come and bid on activities to fill your social calendar.	Judith Stamper/ Katherine Martin auction@ocuuc.org
SCRIP	Help OCUUC by purchasing SCRIP for your weekly expenses. Painless giving and budget friendly, too! Find us on the patio each Sunday.	Charles Gordon/ Scott Armstrong scrip@ocuuc.org
Bookstore	The store needs people to give the Reeds a break. Volunteer to staff the store one Sunday a month. It's fun and easy!	Charlie and Birdie Reed bookstore@ocuuc.org
Event Rental	Did you know that OCUUC facilities are available for rental? Fees are reasonable.	Sarah Jones info@ocuuc.org

The REEL Story

10 June

We will view a film while we eat and follow our movie with a discussion. The film will be “Dogma” starring Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. Watch for future “classes” to be held on Wednesday evenings in July and beyond! Films will be chosen because they offer us the opportunity to explore theology, personal growth and exploration, as well as ethics. Bring a bag lunch, dessert and beverages will be provided.

6:00 p.m.–9:30 p.m.

Karen Stoyanoff, minister@ocuuc.org

Jefferson Bible Study Group

12 & 26 June, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.. Mimi’s Café

Thomas Jefferson believed that the ethical system of Jesus was the finest the world has ever seen. In compiling what has come to be called “The Jefferson Bible,” he sought to separate those ethical teachings from the religious dogma and other supernatural elements that are intermixed in the account provided by the four Gospels. He presented these teachings, along with the essential events of the life of Jesus, in one continuous narrative.

The discussions are open to anyone with no expertise or teaching. Rather, we explore together the meaning and significance of the work to our lives. We also utilize the insights of Jay Haley in his essay, “The Power Tactics of Jesus Christ.”

There are 17 very short chapters in the Jefferson Bible. Contact Karen Anderson for a copy of the Jefferson Bible and “The Power Tactics of Jesus Christ.” We plan to discuss Chapter 6.

*Karen Anderson,
adultprograms@ocuuc.org,
(949) 733-1622*

The Women’s Circle

7 June, 12:30 p.m.

Our topic for June will be “June, Bloom, Spoon.....Love!!” What do you love? Who do you, or have you loved in your life? We will be together from approximately 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.. Please be prompt! Bring a brown bag lunch and beverages provided.

*Lili Laksberger, women@ocuuc.org,
(714) 893 -3133*

Special Guest Request for RECY Summer

Sunday Mornings, 11:15 a.m.

Summer 2009 for OCUUC’s children and youth begins June 14 and will focus on creating peace and justice in our communities. Explorers, the children and youth, want to hear how you, the congregation, promote peace and social justice; what do you do, who do you help? Come show Explorers how the UU principles help guide you in your life.

If you would like to speak to the RECY class about your social justice work, or if you have an idea for a summer social justice project, please contact RECY Committee.

*Katelynn Rivas, dre@ocuuuc.org and
Mary Lundholm, Children’s Religious
Exploration
Committee (CREC), re@ocuuc.org*

The Bookstore

Sunday Mornings

Did you know that each Sunday the Bookstore makes a special display of titles related to the sermon topic? Come and browse. If you would like to suggest a good UU book displayed let Birdie know.

Birdie Reed, bookstore@ocuuuc.org

The Book Group

1 June, 7:30 p.m.

We meet the first Monday of every month.

Coming Up...

June 1—*The Guernsey Literary and
Potato Peel Society* by Mary Ann

Shaffe and Annie Barrows, presented
by Tru Gorrie

July 6—*Vernon God Little* by DBC

Pierre, presented by Marcia Hackett

August 3—*The Song Before It Is Sung* by
Justin Cartwright, presented by Clay-
ton Gorrie

September 7—*The Women* by T

Corghassen Boyle, presented by Bar-
bara Davia

October 5—*Trespass* by Valerie Martin,
presented by Sunny Harper

November 2—*Rabbit, Run* by John Updike, presented by Mickey Jackson
Mickey Jackson, bookgroup@ocuuc.org, (949) 786-0325

Calling All Taoists!

Coming Soon ...

Are you fascinated by the Tao Te Ching? Are you confused and would like to know more? Are you a student of religion and want to add understanding of this ancient tradition to your knowledge base? In any case, let Karen know. We're thinking about starting an exploration/study group on the Tao and would love to have you be part of it. After we know who's interested we'll pick a day and time to meet and invite everyone else to join us too!

*Karen Stoyanoff
minister@ocuuc.org*

Beltane Ritual and Picnic

CUUPs and Chalice

Last month, CUUPs celebrated spring with a lighthearted Beltane ritual and picnic at Vista Park, just across street from the church. Christine Hernandez created an afternoon of fun for all ages. Children and adults flirted with each other in a scarf dance, and everyone helped inaugurate our new Maypole—all while enjoying the flowers of spring and the beautiful view from the top of the hill. Special thanks to Paul Gethard for constructing the Maypole, Christine for organizing the event, Tim and Brenda Titus for saving the space in the park and storing the big pole, and Rayna Hamre for her beautiful bouquets and LONG ribbons. Heartfelt thanks also go out to Alan and Ethan Block for their wonderful live music.

*Christine Hernandez
cuups@ocuuc.org*

Solstice Service

20 June, 7:30 p.m. This musical service will be held in the sanctuary. Like the Winter Solstice service it is being organized by Rayna Hamre and Beth Syverson Nakao. We look forward to seeing you all on the 20th!

Please contact Beth if you would like to sing or read in the service!!!

Beth Syverson Nakao, musicdirector@ocuuc.org

Rent: A Response to Our Community

Youth News

On May 8, the Youth Group hosted a movie night, showing *RENT* in response to protests at CDM High School. *RENT* was chosen for its emphasis on AIDS and love and our youth felt called to show a movie which addressed the social justice needs within our community! The movie hosted an intergenerational group of 18 people, including Davis Lettieri, and two youth from Tapestry!

Spotlight on Youth: Jonathan Blackwood was the only freshman to serve on the Junior Varsity Track team at his school. **Ethan Block** was League Champion at Capistrano Valley, 3rd in CIF and Masters Qualifier for Wrestling. Please congratulate our youth for their amazing achievements!

Summer Albayati-Dadah, youthadvisor@ocuuc.org

Walking Together: OC AIDS Walk 2009

Interweave

OCUUC and UU Fellowship of Laguna Beach took the lead in coordinating all five Orange County UU congregations into a united walking team—Team UU. More than 20 members of OCUUC and UUFLB as well as Tapestry, UU Church of Anaheim, and UU Church in Fullerton participated. Additionally, at least 6 other members of our UU congregations were volunteering for the event but unable to walk with us as a team. As of 5/21, we collectively have raised \$718.00. We will add our Shared Plate Collection to ASF for the month of May to this amount. Over \$500,000 was raised at the 2009 Orange County Aids Walk on May 16th at Anaheim Stadium. Thank you all for your support of those living with AIDS.

Mark Miller and Tim Medley, interweave@ocuuc.org

Additional Contact Information:

Young Adults

Molly Rossow

youngadults@ocuuc.org

Building Just Communities

Think GREEN Sanctuary

Ongoing

Círculo de Amigas recycles plastic bags by sending them (in suitcases of visitors or as packing for shipments) to the project in Jinotega, Nicaragua, where they are crocheted into tote bags and other useful items. The young women who do the crocheting earn much needed spending money and the finished product travels back to the states in visitor's suitcases to be sold by volunteers here. Just cut your plastic bags into tubes

(no clear plastic please) and arrange to give them to Pat.

Need a light bulb? We have one for you. Please get your energy saving light bulbs at the Faith in Action Table on Sundays. All profits from the donations for light bulbs go to the Green Sanctuary fund.

Mike Harmanos, green@ocuuc.org

UU's Rally for Marriage Equality

Welcoming Congregations

On May 26, when the California Supreme Court Decision came in allowing Prop 8 to proceed. Our five Orange County UU congregations were out in force that night with signs and banners. We joined 800 people at the Old Santa Ana Courthouse for a Rally and a March to the Plaza of the Flags showing our re-commitment to continued support for Marriage Equality. Additionally, OCUUC set up a 24-hour Care Line and published it throughout Orange County for those in need and opened up the sanctuary for 3 days following the announcement for those in need of a 'safe' place to pray, meditate or just be. Thank You everyone that was there to help and give care to those in need and have some very enjoyable fellowship too!

Birdie Reed, welcoming@ocuuc.org

Telling Our Story:

An OCEC Interfaith Gathering Journey to Justice

Interweave

4 June, 7:00 p.m.,

University Synagogue

In our continuing effort to support Marriage Equality and Justice in OC, The Welcoming Congregations Committee invites you to attend this event. This will be an evening of coming together to tell our stories as progressive people of faith who are standing on the side of Love. AJ will be the MC, Beth will be leading members of our choir, and Rayna and Christina will be leading a CUUPS welcoming just to name a few participants. Karen and AJ will be sign-

ing a pledge and call to the community to bring equality to Orange County.

AJ Blackwood, internminister@ocuuc.org

The Least of These

The Faith in Action Council

20 June, 2:30 p.m.

We will present the documentary *The Least of These* on the subject of immigration. The Orange County Chapter of ACLU is providing the documentary and light refreshments. Discussion will follow the showing. All are welcome. This film documentary is highly recommended.

Dan Noel, fia@ocuuc.org,

Birdie Reed welcoming@ocuuc.org

(714) 969-1824

ATM Cooking Schedule

13 June, 8:00 a.m.

As part of the OCUUC Faith in Action outreach program, the AIDS Team Ministry Project (ATM) is a meal service project which provides microwaveable meals to homebound people with AIDS who live in Orange County. We cook every month on the second Saturday, 8-noon, in the wonderful OCUUC kitchen. Volunteers cook, package, and freeze meals. These meals, which are then delivered biweekly, can be easily popped into the microwave by folks who are unable to cook nutritious meals for themselves. See the ATM bulletin board on the east wall of the kitchen foyer for cooking dates and sign-up.

Ted and Mary Lundholm, atm@ocuuc.org

(714) 841-0509

Thank you for Supporting Círculo

Círculo de Amigas

I can't tell you all how much we appreciated your generosity in the special collection for Círculo de Amigas. As you can imagine, times are even tougher in the third world than here. Prices have skyrocketed and we are hard pressed to maintain our level of services to our little community. Mil gracias, amigos.

Pat McCully, circulo@ocuuc.org

All in the Family

edited by Marcia Hackett
allinthefamily@ocuuc.org

Now that the REACH is published monthly, the news here may have been updated prior publication. Please be sure to watch the weekly email "Blast" for latest information.

Bob and **Dini Melville** are discussing treatment options for his aneurisms behind both knees. Bob was hospitalized for tests but is home now. Stop by the Caring table if you can help.

We offer our sincere sympathies to **Elizabeth Alexander** on the loss of her brother who had been suffering from dementia. Elizabeth was able to go to England to say goodbye before he passed.

Good news! After two years of hard work **Sandy Kirkpatrick** has completed her book, *Hawaiian Ancient Sites and Modern Beliefs*. It is ready to be sent to the publishers! Sandy reports the most time-consuming part of the project was listing the more than 100 references from her research. What an interesting subject to pursue! Ask Sandy how she got started in this endeavor.

Katherine Martin, husband **Derek Dunn-Rankin** and their daughter **Caroline** spent the holiday weekend in Oberlin, Ohio at son **Christopher's** graduation on May 25. Christopher will move to Chicago to pursue a career in opera composition and direction. We wish this very talented young man, one of our own, much success!

Super congratulations to **Erik Carlson** who graduated from Meadville-Lombard School of Theology in Chicago last weekend! Proud father **Dave Carlson** announced that his son won the coveted top faculty prize for leadership potential. Awesome! Erik is currently applying to hospitals to fulfill the next phase in becoming a minister, that of pastoral, clinical counseling.

Congratulations to **Katryia Carlson**, who successfully completed four semesters and two summer school sessions at Irvine Valley College on her way to taking the TOEFL Exam (Training in English as a Foreign Lan-

guage). Katryia plans to pursue an MBA degree.

Sadly, **Clover Behrend** announced the death of one of her former UCI work-study students, James Cho, who loved to fly and became a flight instructor. James died in the recent airplane crash off Long Beach.

Finally, many compliments to the four people who shared their "This I Believe" philosophies at the services on May 24th: **Jeanne Criss**, **Rob Koran**, **Marilyn Giss**, and **Sara Gilliland**. Our ministers, **Karen Stoyanoff** and **AJ Blackwood** taught the "Build Your Own Theology" course and both agree this was the very best "This I Believe" service we've ever held.

Healthy Living Ideas

Do you have a Healthy Living Question? Send your questions to Adair.

Get Your Mask Here: Add a mask as part of your Home Emergency Kit. If we prepare for earthquakes, adding a mask for quake dust or flu germs makes sense. While hand-washing remains number one at prevention, a proper mask, correctly worn is very effective at reducing transmission of infection from respiratory viruses. Stop by the Caring Table for your mask at \$.45 each. What a bargain!!!

Bloodmobile Coming Soon!!! OCUUC will have our summer blood drive on Sunday, August 9. You need 56 days between donations, so please hang on to your blood till then! Save the Date!

Pastoral Associates Offer "Companionship"

The associates are commissioned to augment the pastoral work of our minister. If illness, physical limitations, impending or recent hospitalization, personal losses, significant life changes, spiritual or emotional distress are concerns for you or someone you know, please call one of the pastoral care associates listed.

Paul Gethard (714) 964-6497
Ted Lundholm (714) 841-0509
Joan Parry (714) 962-2048
Adair Small (949) 786-9149
Judith Stamper . . . (949) 548-6136
Bill Stoker (714) 642-2457
Shannon Stoker. . . (714) 465-6315
Shirley Thorne . . . (949) 722-7075
Vera Viana-Asper . . (714) 549-0284

Caring for One Another

In Deepest Appreciation ... from Rev. Karen and the entire community

This the last issue of the *REACH* that will be produced by Richard Scoby. Among the many services that Richard has offered to *ocuuc.org* his editing and production of the *REACH* has been valuable beyond words. For years, he has taken on this large task and provided us with a newsletter that is timely, informative, and professional. We miss Richard and Lynn, greatly—they have given to this commu-

nity in so many ways. Our heartfelt thanks go out to both of them for all the service they have offered to us over the years.

Communications Team Update

We are listening to your comments and concerns. Over the past few months the Communications Team has been hard at work behind the scenes transitioning the REACH from a semi-monthly to a monthly newsletter, streamlining the weekly email blasts, redesigning the website, and putting in place systems to help get communication across the community quickly and efficiently.

One thing we have done is test run a communications submission form. We are grateful to all those who participated and gave us feedback. We have refined and attached one for your viewing. We will be sending an online copy out in the next week.

We currently are in need of people with the following skill sets: writing press releases, developing marketing materials, photography, and record keeping. If you are able and interested in working with the communications team please let us know.

AJ Blackwood, internminister@ocuuc.org

(714) 948-0460,

Cynthia Meyer, reach@ocuuc.org

Mike Harmanos, webmaster@ocuuc.org

Sign Up for Camp Soon ...

Camp de Benneville Pines

Get ready for camp! Parents it is time to think about camp planning. The following camps are available.

July 12–18—Elementary Camp: Incredible UUs

July 19–25—Junior High Camp: We are the Peace Makers

July 26–Aug 1—Senior High Camp: Camp Underground

UU Family Camp is August 2 to August 8. The focus is “Finding Family in the Mountains.”

This month OCUUC is collecting money for explorers to attend summer camp! Please join the de Benneville Committee. This committee is dedicated to making sure that every explorer who wants to go to camp gets the support they need to get there. This includes scholarship funds. Please help us help our youth by joining this committee today!

Mary Lundholm, programs@ocuuc.org

(714) 841-0509 and

Paul Gethard camp@ocuuc.org

Choir Performing at Interfaith Gathering

4 June, 7:00 p.m.,

University Synagogue

You’ve probably heard that the Supreme Court decision on Prop 8 was released on Tuesday 5/26. We are saddened by this decision to ban members of our community from a civil right. We invite our OCUUC community to attend this interfaith service. Beth will be directing a mass choir and soloists. Please come and support our choir and the Orange County Queer/LGBT Community in our midst by attending this event. If you are interested in singing in the choir let Beth know.

Beth Syverson Nakao,

musicdirector@ocuuc.org, (714) 376-6666

North Orange County HikUUs

20 & 27 June, 8:30 a.m.

Irvine Regional Park

Are you interested in hiking and exploring some of the beauty of Orange County? If you answer yes to this please join us but make sure you RSVP so we know to look for you.

Maureen McConaghy,

hikuurs@ocuuc.org, (714) 538-4716

Do you know an Unsung UU???

Unsung UU Nominations 2008–2009

Unsung UU is a long-cherished tradition where we annually honor a member of our church at our Annual Meeting. Nominations are due before the next board meeting on June 7th. An Unsung UU is

a person who works behind the scenes facilitating church operations, helping others, and finding ways to build a stronger community. The award cannot be given to a staff person, a board member or a committee chair. Submit your nominations with a brief explanation to Mary ASAP.

Did you know we have a recognitions committee? Part of doing the work of this community is recognizing those who do the hard work. We have several programs that operate throughout the year. If you like to give a person a boost of support and make someone smile we welcome you to join the Recognitions Committee.

*Mary Lundholm,
recognitions@ocuuc.org*

Knitwits

14 & 28 June

Knitwits meet the second and fourth Sundays of the month right after church. We are looking for some new members of any skill level who like to knit or who are interested in learning. We make afghans for anyone at church who is ill. It is an opportunity to socialize and share projects.

*Judith Stamper, knitwits@ocuuc.org
(949) 548-6136*

Flowers for Services

Did you ever wonder where the flowers come from? Members of the congregation donate them. Currently, there are many Sundays open for you to bring flowers. Commemorate a special event in your life with flowers. At your request, Sarah will place your commemoration in the Order of Service. Please contact Gayle Carter.

*Gayle Carter, flowers@ocuuc.org
(714) 272-0696*

Additional Contact Information:

Artists Arise

Vera Viena-Asper
artistsarise@ocuuc.org

Concert Committee

Molly Rossow
concerts@ocuuc.org

Covenant Groups

Judith Stamper
covenant@ocuuc.org

Gatherings

Mary Lundholm
gatherings@ocuuc.org

Helping Hands

Gayle Carter
helpinghands@ocuuc.org

Membership

Tom Loughrey
membership@ocuuc.org





Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church

1259 Victoria Street
Costa Mesa CA 92627
(949) 646-4652

Dated Material

PSWD/UUA

Association District Representative

Birdie & Charlie Reed *adr@ocuuc.org*

The PSWD District Assembly, held May 1–3 at Mesa, Arizona, was excellent. Friday night we were treated to the cantata “Sources” by Jason Shelton (music) and Kendyl Gibbons (lyrics). Local musicians played and an all-district chorus sang. OCUUC participants were Beth Syverson Nakao playing a piano solo, Rev. Dr Karen Stoyanoff as a narrator, and several members of our choir. If you haven’t heard “Sources,” you should take any opportunity to do so.

The PSWD has also changed its DA policy. Future DAs will alternate between being held at a church (next year Santa Barbara: Live Oak UU Church) and at a city hotel (Long Beach in 2011). This is in anticipation of GA possibly going to an every-other-year format.

The workshops we attended on water, sustainable living, and social justice fund-raising were some of the best in memory. Queer(BGLTQ) delegates and their allies also created a district-wide communication organization. Ask AJ Blackwood, Mark Miller, Angela Henderson, or us about it.

Don’t forget GA is coming up June 24–28 in Salt Lake City. We will elect a new president of the UUA. The candidates, Rev Laurel Hallman (*www.hallmanforuuapresident.com*) and Rev Peter Morales (*www.moralesforuuapresident.org*), will speak at a forum before the election. We will also

consider proposed additions to our principles and purposes, to be voted on this GA and the next. The popular offering UU University has been incorporated in the regular GA curriculum. Attendees follow one of six study tracks for part of two days. There is still time to register; see *www.uua.org/events/generalassembly*.

Our outgoing president, Rev Bill Sinkford has been a busy man this spring. After his return from a trip to Africa, he has been occupied praising Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire for their adoption of marriage for all. Would that he could praise California.

The UUA is preparing a handbook for UU service personnel to be ready this summer. It will cost \$25,000 to produce and distribute. Please contribute: *www.uua.org/giving/donatenow/142432.shtml*

PSWD and de Benneville Pines are holding a young adult (18–35) camp this September 4–7. Go to: *http://connectuu.com/events.php?action=view&event_id=1176*

Additional Contact Information: UUA District Representative

Tom Loughrey, *membership@ocuuc.org*



*Coming soon...
The second annual OCUUC/CUUPS*

Summer Solstice Ritual



*A musical celebration of the sun, the Earth,
and the web of existence*

*Saturday, June 20
7:30 pm
OCUUC Sanctuary*



Orange Coast UU Church
Communications Submission Form

Publish in:

- REACH (Deadline 21st of the month)
 Website

reach@ocuuc.org
webmaster@ocuuc.org

Publish Dates: _____

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Check if you do not want your number published.

Email: _____ (only email addresses at ocuuc.org will be published.)

Calendar Items (Reach and Website)

Date: Time – Program: Event Name, Location

Information/Article: (50 Words or Less)

Event Name: _____

OCUUC Organization/Committee: _____

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____

Location: _____ (If not at OCUUC)

Details: _____
