

DIALOGUE

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

Inspired by our UU principles, we are a vibrant, intentionally diverse congregation that models and promotes both locally and globally: love, spiritual growth, service, right relations and sustainable living.

OCTOBER 2016

Happenings July-September

**Opening Ceremony - Chenresig Sand Mandala
July 13, 2016**



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THE DESIGN

DAY 1



DAY 2

Day 3



DAY 4 - DISSOLUTION & IMPERMANENCE



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Interfaith Dialogue on Tolerance July 14, 2016



Panelists: Geshe Lama Phunsho, Iman Taka Hassane, Father Dermot Rodgers & Rabbi Shai Cherry

Chenrezig Empowerment July 14, 2016



Geshe Lama Phunsho and Geshe Lobsang Kamchuk Rinpoche



Family Day Saturday, July 16 Story Time. Sand Madala, Butter Sculpture Calligraphy



Gay Rights Parade Saturday, July 13

Members of the UUFSD joined UUs from other congregations at the Annual Gay Rights Parade in Hillcrest.



Black Lives Matter Demonstration

Twelve members of UU Fellowships and Churches joined thirty four members of Showing Up For Racial Justice, San Diego Chapter. The demonstration was held in front of the San Diego Police Department.



2016 Backpack Project The backpack project exceeded expectations!!! Our goal was to fill at least 80 backpacks and we ended up filling 106 backpacks. The backpacks were distributed to the Encinitas CRC Battered Women’s program, Tijuana Colonias, to needy children in the Encinitas Unified School District and Stand Up for Kids (a homeless teen program) in Oceanside. **Special thanks to Elizabeth Young and Livia Walsh, our Backpack Project coordinators, and to everyone in the Fellowship that made this happen.**



2016 Backpack Project - Continued



Livia Walsh delivering backpacks to the Encinitas Unified School District



Liz Young with backpacks for children of the CRC's Battered Women's Program



Livia Walsh with a volunteer at Stand Up for Kids, Oceanside. We delivered 15 backpacks full of toiletries, clothing and school supplies.



We provided and distributed 51 backpacks distributed at our sister communities in the Colonias of Tijuana.



Food Bank Update -

July 2016: We bagged 3,200 pounds of potatoes which were handed out at the Summer Fun Cafe, a program by the San Diego Schools to provide a little extra food to take home after the free school lunches given to our kids-in-need.

August 2016: We bagged 3,700 pounds of nectarines this month which were handed out at the Summer Fun Cafe.

September 2016: We bagged 4,500 pounds of apples in JUST 2 HOURS!

August Day Laborers Lunch Program - August 13, 2016

August represented the last Day Laborers Lunch distribution for 2016. The Human Rights Task Force will concentrate on Voter Registration through November. Our goal is to increase the number of eligible Hispanic voters in San Dieguito communities. Preparing and distributing the lunches were Nancy & Roger Harmon, Sharon Weld, Livia Walsh, Alejandra Huffman Chen and Irv Himelblau. **During the distribution, we became aware of a day laborer who was studying for an AB 60 drivers license and wanted to pursue "political asylum."** We supplied him with names and phone numbers of a Spanish speaking drivers license teachers and immigration attorneys, the North County Immigration Task Force, and the ACLU. **GOES TO SHOW THAT WE CAN HELP EVEN IF IT'S ONE FAMILY AT A TIME.**

Water Communion, Sep. 11, 2016

The traditional first service of the congregational year is the Water Communion. The water ritual was created by Carolyn McDade and Lucille Longview at the Women & Religious Continental Convocation of UU's in East Lansing.



Spirit Level Foundation The Foundation makes grants available to UU congregations which are members of the Unitarian Universalist Association and are located in one of five Southern California counties: San Diego, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, or Los Angeles. The UUFSD received a matching grant of

\$350,000.00 for our Capital Campaign. The Reverend Jim Grant presented the first of seven checks (\$50,000.00 each) to Clint Stoddard, a member of the Capital Campaign Committee.



Voter Registration The SJA Group sponsored the League of Women Voters Voter Registration orientation on Sunday, September 18. Sixteen members and friends attended. The SJA will partner with the North County Immigration Task Force and other organizations and will announce dates and locations for voter registration.

UUFSD BOOK CLUBS

Second Monday Group: 7 pm Third Thursday Group: 10:30 am Where: Palmer Library

Monday Oct. 10th: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman [translated from Swedish]

Thursday Oct. 20th: The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander [non-fiction]

Monday Nov. 8th: Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson [non-fiction]

Thursday Nov. 17th: The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman [novel]

Monday Dec. 12th: Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance [memoir]

Thursday group is not meeting in December but will be discussing a large biography on January 19th: Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION AGENDA 2016-2017

The Social Justice Action Group (SJA) held its September quarterly meeting discussing a wide range of action issues for the remainder of 2016 and 2017. We were encouraged to have new people join us in our discussion and hope this leads to increased participation in our justice activities. Here are some of the highlights.

Gun Violence Prevention: We are grateful to Susan Miller and Alison Schlick who will coordinate the Sandy Hook Gun Violence Prevention Vigil on Saturday, December 10. Carol Mason reported that on Sunday, October 2, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm, there will be a demonstration, sponsored by the Advocates for Gun Safety, at the Del Mar Fair Grounds. **We are in need of car pool drivers leaving the fellowship after the first service.**

Mental Health: The Mental Health group will have a monthly information table and is planning more informational opportunities in conjunction with the Pastoral Care Committee. Special activities are planned for Mental Health Month in May 2017.

Homeless Shelter: Kathy Faller and Robin Sales will coordinate this years homeless shelter week at St. James Catholic Church. Kathy and Robvin can be reached at shelter@uufsd.org. Publicity and sign ups will commence immediately.

Environmental Justice: The second annual Climate Crisis Conference will be held at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church on Saturday, October 8, from 9 am to 4 pm. The EJTF is preparing an educational agenda for 2017.

Generosity Sunday: The SJA. approved the applications of two organizations, the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence and Boys to Men. They will be added to the list of eight approved applicants for the remainder of 2016-17.

Homeless Shelter: Kathy Faller and Robin Sales will coordinate this years homeless shelter week at St. James Catholic Church. Publicity and sign ups will commence immediately.

Rainbow Coalition: We welcomed Candace Sage, our Rainbow Coalition coordinator. We are cosponsoring a booth with the Palomar and Chalice Congregations at the Pride by the Beach 2016 event in Oceanside, Saturday, October 8, from 10:00 am to 6 pm. There is still need for volunteers to staff the booth and a sign up sheet will be available on Sunday, October 2 after services. We also discussed holding a Gun Violence Prevention Vigil in June 2017 for the victims of the Orlando Florida massacre.

Casas de Luz: Kathy Faller reported on the new projects being undertaken by CDL. She indicated that several of the CDL projects have exceeded expectations: construction of a new \$120,000.00 community center; expanded breakfast club; partnership with St. James on the use of a truck; and the Cumbers Christmas party.

Human Rights: We are assisting an African refugee family (partnering with Pilgrim Church of Christ and Casas de Luz).

We will hold a "Beloved Conversations" retreat, workshop and educational series, in 2017, relating to white privilege and racism in America. This is a comprehensive eight session program.

We agreed to co-sponsor a half day workshop on Anti Racist Vision & Organizing in the White Community, on Saturday, October 29. The presenter is Chris Crass, a UU lay person lecturer on racism in America.

There was a brief discussion of the Haitian Immigration crisis and efforts being coordinated by First UU Church and Palomar UU. Questions on how best to respond to the crisis were raised and this be one of the discussion items for the next Human Rights Task Force meeting.