Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach

# Advance



December 2023

## SUNDAY SERVICES

ia ZOOM at uuclb.org/service -or- FB LIVE at facebook.com/UUCLB

# Inside this issue

Special Collection

#### **December 3, 2023** — 10:00am ONSITE and on Zoom and Facebook Live

Mysterious Mother: Meditation and Music Service with Rev. Lissa and the Lilia Ensemble
Find respite in the rush of the holiday season with poetry and meditations embracing the
mysterious figure of Mary, mother of Jesus. Featuring The Lilia Ensemble, an all-female acapella early
music trio performing carols from the Medieval and Renaissance period. We are so thrilled to welcome Elizabeth Laughton, Soo Bin Kwon and Rebecca Russel to UUCLB.

Lilia Ensemble was formed in 2021, out of a love of early and eclectic music and the joy that comes from blending a trio of voices. Beth, Soo Bin, and Rebecca balance professional singing careers with day jobs ranging from education to science to law. They delight in finding opportunities to share both familiar and lesser-heard pieces, in a wide variety of styles.

#### **December 10, 2023** — 10:00am ONSITE and on Zoom

Oh What Fun! Family Holiday Sing-a-long with Rev. Lissa Gundlach, Danny Pravder, and the UUCLB Choir

Celebrate the comfort and joy of the winter holidays with a family sing-a-long featuring favorite carols and popular songs of the season. Children and youth are invited to participate. Join us following the service for a festive coffee hour.

International Human Rights Day: Bring your UUSC Guest at Your Table Boxes or make a donation to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. UUSC was founded in May 1940 as the Unitarian Service Committee with the intended purpose of assisting European refugees endangered by Nazi persecution. Throughout the world, UUSC and our partners advance human rights, dismantle systems of oppression, and uplift the inherent worth and dignity of all people.

#### **December 17, 2023** — 10:00am ONSITE and on Zoom and Facebook Live

Homegrown Hope Contemporary Service with Rev. Lissa, Danny Pravder and the Homegrown Collective, and our own Wylder Spirits

These times of war and crisis call us to celebrate a different kind of Christmas. Rev. Lissa and Danny Pravder lead us through a contemporary service exploring the four Advent themes of yearning for Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Homegrown Collective is an independent LA-based artist collective with a passion to share love and provide a creative and accepting space for artists. They aim to foster community through a shared mission: Awakening through Authentic Musical Expression.

#### **December 24, 2023: Christmas Eve** — **5:00pm** ONSITE and on Zoom and Facebook Live

Candlelight Christmas Eve 5:00pm with Rev. Lissa, Danny Pravder and the UUCLB Choir Come enjoy the beauty and joy of Christmas eve featuring timeless carols, closing with the beloved candlelight singing of Silent Night. Our Christmas Eve offering will be divided between the Minister's Discretionary Fund: an emergency fund to provide temporary assistance to our congregation and community in times of need, transition and crisis; and the Minister's Holiday Collection Recipient: UNICEF Global. Please note: No Sunday Morning Service.

#### **December 31, 2023** — 10:00am ONSITE and on Zoom and Facebook Live

"Looking Back to Grow Forward: Setting Intentions for the New Year" with Amy Brunell

Amy Brunell is a second year student at Starr King School for the Ministry and is grateful to be with UUCLB. Her family started attending the Unitarian Church of Santa Monica in 1971. She has volunteered at Camp de Benneville Pines as a camp Dean for well over a dozen various family camps, church camps and Thanksgiving camps. She is passionate about deepening conversations regarding our UU Principles, our Sources and now our evolving Article Two values. Unitarian Universalism offers a rich liberal faith tradition to a world that is often in despair. Currently, Amy facilitates workshops for adults on developing strategies to deepen emotional intelligence.

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# Minister's December Social Justice Collection

### UNICEF Global



**UNICEF** is the United Nations Children's Fund, working in the world's toughest places to reach the most disadvantaged children and adolescents - and to protect the rights of every child, everywhere. Before, during and after humanitarian emergencies, UNICEF is on the ground, bringing life-saving help and hope to children and families. "In all wars it is children who suffer first and suffer most." Since the horrific terrorist attacks on Israel on October 7th, the escalation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip has had a catastrophic impact on children and families. Children are dying at an alarming rate - thousands have reportedly been killed and thousands more injured. An estimated 1.5 million people in the Gaza Strip have been displaced – more than half of them children. Please donate to UNICEF to help support on the ground aid efforts in North Gaza and refugee support for displaced families. Thank you for your generosity. UUCLB.org/GIVE

View past Sunday Services at www.facebook.com/UUCLB



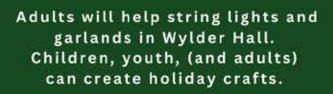




HOLIDAY
DECORATING PARTY
& POTULUCK
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 2, 2023

9:00AM TO 1:00PM

POTLUCK AT NOON



If you are staying for the potluck lunch at noon, please bring a main dish to share.
Beverages & dessert will be provided





Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach

5450 E Atherton Street, Long Beach













2023

### **Greetings Friends!**

It is month to gather with friends & family, to break out the warm sweaters, to witness the change of the nature.

Here at UUCLB, we celebrate the season in many ways. A quick perusal of our church calendar (at www.uuclb.org/calendar) brings wonderful options in Wylder Hall:

December 2, Saturday: all ages Decorating Party and Potluck in Wylder Hall and the Lounge (9:00am-1:00pm, Potluck at noon)

- 🗼 December 3, Sunday: Fair Trade Holiday Faire after service
- A December 10, Sunday: "Christmas, Vince Guaraldi Style" Holiday Concert (4:00pm)
- December 21, Thursday: Yule/Winter Solstice Celebration (6:00-8:30pm)
- A December 24, Sunday: Christmas Eve Services (5:00pm)

We hope you can participate in one of these. Please share with friends! Many are looking for meaningful and spiritual ways to celebrate the season with others.

From a board perspective, I have been reflecting on the word "stewardship". What does it mean to be a steward of UUCLB? There are many needs – from teaching our youth, to coordinating an affinity group, to participating with a team or task force. Stewardship also means gathering financial support to make our dreams reality. If you would like to help set the direction of UUCLB's mission and vision, we encourage you to get involved and consider serving – particularly on the board. We are committed to having all 7 trustee positions filled in 2024 with those from diverse backgrounds. Please reach out to me or board members Nasreen Sarah Gagner, Priscilla Ortiz, Gina Stephens, or Sam Warner if you want to know more.

May you & yours find rest and connection this season.

In Peace,



Edie Mickey-Silveria



THE

# FAIR TRADE HOLIDAY FAIRE

RETURNS TO UUCLB
DECEMBER 3, 2023

9:00-10:00AM AND 11:00-12:00PM

FIND BEAUTIFUL HANDCRAFTED GIFTS FROM ALL OVER THE
WORLD FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY (OR FOR YOU) AT THIS
"ETHICAL SHOPPING" EVENT THAT SUPPORTS:
EQUITABLE PAY THAT HELPS FARMERS, ARTISANS, AND
THEIR FAMILIES THRIVE.

THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AS INCOME PRODUCERS.

SAFE WORKING CONDITIONS, WITH NO FORCED CHILD LABOR.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

VENDORS THIS YEAR INCLUDE:

IMPACTFUL MARKET

TRIBU

BALIS ROSE

ARE AND BE COFFEE

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: LERAE NIEL 4JOYLP@GMAIL.COM OR

NORMA CHINCHILLA NORMA.AMAZONICA@GMAIL.CO

M



5450 E ATHERTON STREET | LONG BEACH, CA 90815





December 2023

# MINISTER'S MISSIVE

with Rev. Lissa Anne Gundlach

#### Dear UUCLB Family,

Warm holiday wishes to you and your family! I hope the season brings you all of the joy and comfort of traditions we celebrate together as a community. At this time of year, I invite you to please consider the church in your holiday and year-end giving. If it is possible for you, I invite you to also consider paying down or paying ahead on your pledge or offer an additional gift to UUCLB. Please call the office if you need any assistance in making your gifts.

I am pleased to share some special giving opportunities this holiday season. Our Christmas eve service is traditionally divided between the Minister's Emergency Fund and the Minister's Holiday Collection. The Minister's Emergency Fund provides temporary assistance to our congregation and community in times of need, transition and crisis. Our members and friends are so grateful for this support, please know how much it makes a difference in our community.

The Minister's Holiday Collection recipient is UNICEF Global. The Special Collection for UNICEF will be taken on Sunday, Dec. 10th, but donations are accepted throughout the month and can be made on their website at www.unicef.com. UNICEF is the United Nations Children's Fund, working in the world's toughest places to reach the most disadvantaged children and adolescents – and to protect the rights of every child, everywhere. Before, during and after humanitarian emergencies, UNICEF is on the ground, bringing life-saving help and hope to children and families.

In all wars it is children who suffer first and suffer most. Since the horrific terrorist attacks on Israel on October 7th, the escalation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip has had a catastrophic impact on children and families. Children are dying at an alarming rate – thousands have reportedly been killed and thousands more injured. An estimated 1.5 million people in the Gaza Strip have been displaced – more than half of them children. Please donate to Unicef to help support on the ground aid efforts in North Gaza and refugee support for displaced families. Thank you for your generosity.

Along with our UUCLB staff, I'm wishing you a very merry Christmas and a joyful and safe New Year. We hope you will enjoy celebrating the holidays together with us at UUCLB, even though we are apart! Thank you for making UUCLB a part of your holiday season of giving!

With love,

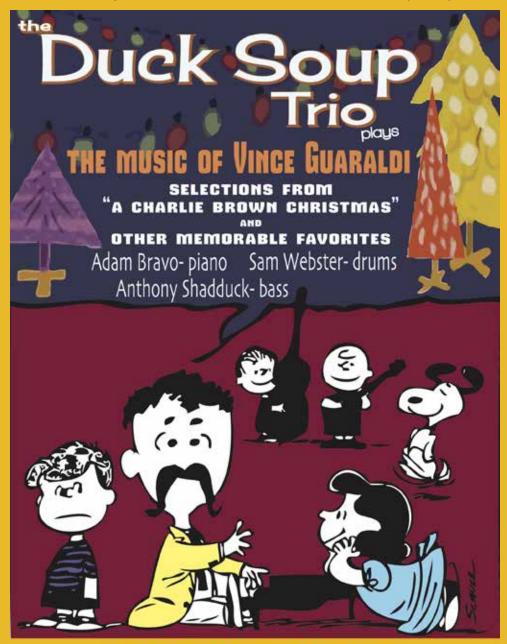
Day Lissa

Rev Lissa Hundlach

unicef

## **UUCLB '23-24 Concert Series #I**

We're kicking off our UUCLB '23-24 Concert Series early this year!



The UUCLB 2023-4 Concert Series begins!

Sunday, Pecember 10, 2023. 4:00PM

Wylder Hall, UUCLB

Suggested Ponation: \$20 general, \$10 students, 12 and under free Presented by the UUCLB Music and Arts Committee

On Sunday, December 10 at 4PM, Wylder Hall will play host to the Duck Soup Trio, a piano/bass/drums ensemble paying tribute to the great Vince Guaraldi (pianist and composer of "Cast Your Fate to the Wind", "Linus and Lucy", and many others). With the season in mind, they'll be playing Guaraldi's songs from "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and other favorites.

# Social Justice



# ...Pursuing Liberation

NOW is the time for Pursuing Liberation and you can be part of it by participating in our annual denomination-wide Guest At Your Table program. This intergenerational program raises support for and awareness

about key human rights issues, sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee for decades.

Participants receive information about four very special people working here or abroad to address injustice in its many forms. Then participants can gather around their kitchen or dining room table to discuss the efforts of each of the four guests. This provides Unitarian Universalists of all ages a chance to learn about what can be done to help others. A cardboard coin box is included for the middle of the table. This allows everyone to make a small contribution to the efforts of each "guests." Since there are four highlighted "guests," families have several opportunities to discuss and support each.

#### The four guests are:

**Ana Lorena Delgadillo**, who is supporting individuals and families impacted by human rights violations in Mexico and Central America.

**Lidia Palma**, who is advocating for the dignity of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) beneficiaries and an equitable legislative path to permanent residency for TPS holders.

**Sepasitiano Patelisio**, who is promoting Indigenous peoples' right to self-determination and supports work in the Pacific to address climate-forced-displacement.

**Dr. Margaret Amaka Ohia-Nowak**, who is responding to the needs of Black, African, and Afro-descendant people fleeing Ukraine and staying long-term in Poland.

Since UUSC works in more than 20 countries, with over 50 grassroots partners, there are thousands of individuals that benefit from the work that our members make possible.

Guest At Your Table flyers and boxes are available after Service the last 2 Sundays in November (the 19th and 26th) and the first 3 Sundays in December. We will collect the boxes on December 17. Congregants are encouraged to share the stories of Pursuing Liberation with friends and family visiting over the holidays. For more information, contact Laura Scully at 562-822-0200 or lbscully1@gmail.com.

#### More info in GAYT at:

https://www.uusc.org/resources/congregations/gayt/



- UUSC AND YOUR CONGREGATION

### **Guest at Your Table**

UUSC's longest-established fundraising and educational program for congregations.



## The "Saving Democracy Team" Starts at UUCLB

A new Social Justice group, the Saving Democracy Team, has formed at UUCLB. We are reading books and watching videos to become informed about how we got where we are, and we urge you to do the same. We are planning action events for the congregation including letter/postcard writing, calling elected officials, and strategizing over more activities the UUCLB congregation and individuals can take. To be placed on the e-list, e-mail Pat at Patricia.Marr.29@gmail.com We're reading:



#### "Saving Democracy" by David Pepper

Update: Unitarians for Social Justice (UUSJ) is planning a Zoom event on January 10 at 4:30 pm PT with David Pepper, author of the book Saving Democracy: A User's Manual for Every American.

Please put this event on your calendar!



#### "Tyranny of the Minority" by Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt

The authors met in Concord, Connecticut to discuss their book.

This event was recorded. The link to the recording is: <a href="https://youtu.be/PCr6LUAh-nQ">https://youtu.be/PCr6LUAh-nQ</a>

This authors' event was co-sponsored by Reclaim Our Democracy and Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice.

#### **CA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION - MARCH 5, 2024**



#### **BE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE!**

- California Online Voter Registration
- Scan QR Code to the California Secretary of State website to register to vote. https://www.sos.ca.gov/
- To find your CA state representatives, <u>click here</u> or go to: https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/
- If you need help registering, contact SocialJusticeCouncil@uuclb.org.



After our successful movie night earlier this month we have scheduled a movie night December.

### Friday, December I, 2023, 6:00pm LGBTQ+ Caucus Movie Night in the UUCLB Lounge.

#### Take our LGBTQ+ Caucus member / Ally Survey

(no personal information is collected. only survey responses.) https://forms.gle/5EgwqGmDwFxfZpys9

QUESTIONS? You identify as Queer or Ally and want to join our mailing list? CONTACT US AT lgbtq.chair@uuclb.org
The LGBTQ+ Caucus is Member driven and your input is appreciated for planning events, forums, workshops for 2024
Caucus Co-Chairs are: Chrisanne Blakenship-Billings she/they/her/them/everything, Bill Sive he/him/his

Lifting up our voices, Living our authentic lives, Sharing our Queer selves, We are stronger together In Queer Space



## **Solar & Environmental Celebration**

Sunday, December 10, 2023 II:30am to I:00pm



The Green Team invites you to stroll the grounds and visit our two gardens, arrays of solar panels, LED lights, and more. Green Team members will be available to answer questions. We will end with snacks and a video in the Lounge.

Come celebrate what we have accomplished as a Church to combat climate change. The work goes on, but it's time to cheer the awesome work we have done so far!



# **UUCLB Social Justice Collections Through October 2023**

Following are the special collections (so far) for this calendar year.

Month 2023	Recipient	Amount
January	East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice	\$1,457.00
February	Dream Success Center UUCLB 49'ers	\$3,917.00
March	Interval House	\$1,082.00
April	Ground Education	\$908.00
May	Heart Of Ida	\$627.00
April	U.S. Fund For UNICEF / Ukrainian Egg Dyeing	\$465.00
June	The LGBTQ Center Long Beach	\$889.61
July	Long Beach Community Table	\$712.00
August	Days Long Beach	\$1,212.00
Extra September	Maui Collection	\$1,629.00
September	Long Beach Trauma Recovery Center	\$389.00
October	Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Conservancy	\$1,280.00



# Saturday January 13, 2024 Reserve the Date to Participate in the MARTIN LUTHER KING JUNIOR PARADE

When: Saturday 1/13/2024 Park & Assemble 9:00am, Parade Start 10:00am

**Where:** The parade kickoff starts at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue and Anaheim Street and ends at the Martin Luther King Jr. Park (1950 Lemon Avenue, Long Beach)

**What:** After the parade stay for a park celebration that will include a main stage with performances, a health and wellness area, a youth area, food and merchandise vendors, and information booths.

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and Celebration has become a longstanding tradition that celebrates the diverse community of Long Beach. This festival serves to honor and keep alive the many values of Dr. King through arts, remembrance and meaningful perspectives.

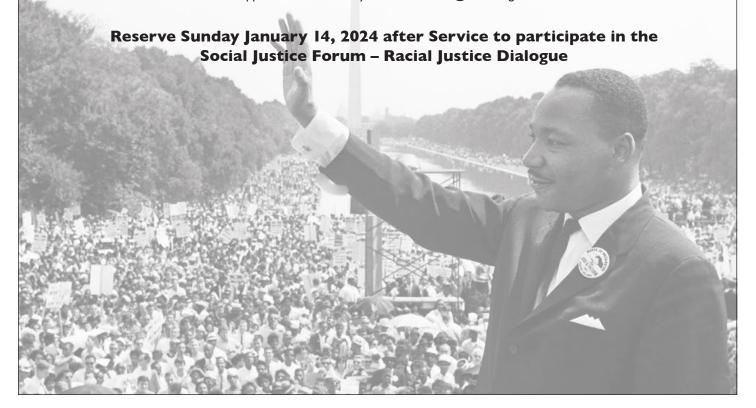
This UUCLB Social Justice Fellowship opportunity is sponsored by group partnerships: Adult Faith Development, People of Color, Black & White Men Together

### **Parade Participation Details**

Parade Participants RSVP to Jimmy Brink at jimmybrinkchiefs@gmail.com 562-400-9258

Festival Booth UUCLB Outreach – Volunteers requested

Outreach Support – RSVP to Kathy Adams at katole@uuclb.org 562-619-8612



The Auction is Coming!!
The Auction is Coming!!

**SAVE THE DATE!** 

**UUCLB Presents the Annual** 

Winter Lights
Service Auction

ON-LINE THE LAST WEEK OF JANUARY 2024

### **Our Virtual Auction**

will go live at
Midnight, Sunday 1/21/24
and will be open 24/7
all week long until
Friday 1/27/24 at 11:59pm.

All Culminating at the

In-Person
Service Auction
and
All-Church

All-Church Fellowship Party

Saturday January 28th Doors will open at 6pm in Wylder Hall.

For more info contact us at winterlight@uuclb.org

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

for the
Winter Lights
Annual Service Auction

Your UUCLB
Service Auction Committee
is already meeting and
getting geared up for
Auction Season!

...and we can't have an Auction without volunteers. We are looking for everything from available helping hands, to folks to train on the job for leadership positions!! This is an exciting, all church party, and fundraiser!

Your volunteer service helps make our biggest party of the year a fun filled social event while raising money for our annual budgets! Come join us and be part of the team. This year's Auction will be on the evening of Saturday January 27, 2023.

If you are interested, please reach out to Mimi Gephart-Seeley

Winterlight@uuclb.org
or
mimigs100@gmail.com

Volunteering at the annual
Service Auction is a great way to
meet people,
enjoy community,
AND have fun...
all while helping the Church!!

No Experience Necessary



# **DENOMINATION NEWS**

#### **Important Denomination Dates**

FOR MORE details about these denominational assemblies, and for information about other denomination events, be sure to sign up for our church's weekly announcements here: https://www.uuclb.org/news/newsletter-signup/

- April 19-20 '24 Regional Assembly for the Pacific Western Region.
  - Denver, CO. & online. (uua.org/pacific-western)
- April 26-28 '24 Pacific Southwest Service Area Assembly & Camp de Benneville Pines annual meeting + PSWSA Youth Con. (uucamp.org) Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, CA, and online.
- June 20-23 '24 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association.
   Virtual only. (uua.org/ga)

The 2025 GA will be held in Baltimore and online.

# 2024 Pacific Southwest Service Area Assembly

If you can attend only one denominational assembly next year, this one gives you the most bang for your buck! It's like a mini-GA, but much closer, lots less expensive, and far more personal. It draws UUs from congregations all over Southern California, Southern Nevada and Arizona. The theme is "Promoting Justice: Amplifying Voices at the Intersections of Race, Class, & Environment."

**Do you have a teenager?** Here's a chance for them to connect with UU teens from the wider UU world at the Youth Con – same time, same place.

To be on the list for updates and alerts about April's PSWSA Assembly, Sign Up Here!

# Camp de Benneville Pines Events UU Senior High Winter Camp

(Wed. Dec. 27 - Mon., Jan. I)

Camp is where some of the best memories from the teen years are formed – hands down! It's five nights & six days at Camp Carry UUn for area youths currently in grades 9-12. Click here for more Information & Registration

**For all camps:** Look for possible Early Bird discounts, scholarship opportunities, or sliding-scale fees.



**De Benneville's annual matching fund drive has begun.** The goal is to match \$100,000 in new & increased donations. From YOU!

**Camp Contact Information:** Camp de Benneville Pines, 41750 Jenks Lake Road West, Angelus Oaks, CA 92305; (909) 794-2928; http://www.uucamp.org

#### From the Pacific Western Region

**Regional Assembly** — Registration for RA opens in January. Meantime, program planning continues apace. If you have great ideas for the Assembly, reach out to Sarah at sschurr@uua.org. You can also participate in the planning by filling out this survey.

**For Up-to-Date News** about all programs and events offered by the PWR, Subscribe now to the monthly newsletter. Check out the website: uua.org/pacific-western.

#### **Taproot: A National BIPoC Space**

BIPoC Leaders rooted in Unitarian Universalist congregations are invited to take part in this monthly, virtual gathering on the second Thursday of the month.

**YUUP** stands for Young UU Project. This national community care network centers BIPoC, trans/non-binary and neurodivergent youth and offers a transition zone for young people moving into emerging adulthood.

**YARN** is the Young Adult Revival Network, which offers a non-traditional worship service on the third Sunday of each month. Discover a different way to embody our faith at this intergenerational event, all people 18 and older are welcome. Register here.

# News from the Unitarian Universalist Association

#### **Article II - Final Proposed Revision**

The version of the proposed Article II as amended at General Assembly '23 is now available. So what's next? It's all on this website: **Learn More** Deadline for congregations to submit further amendments is 8:59 pm PT. February I.

#### **Taking Action: Stop Cop City**

As the direct result of an Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) adopted by the 2023 General Assembly, the "Love Resists" campaign supports, and often joins, groups who act in opposition to the construction of a \$90 million militarized urban warfare training complex in the heart of a predominantly Black neighborhood of Atlanta, GA. The development would also destroy 381 acres of land that is sacred to the Muskogee people.

#### News about General Assembly '24

- The handy one-page summary is now available online.
- · The theme is "Love Unites, Stories Ignite."
- The call has gone out for program proposals and invitations to sponsor exhibits.
- To get announcements about GA, contact generalassembly@uua.org and ask to receive the regular GA updates.



After one hundred years, the end is in sight for Sunset Hall, the cherished and iconic institution that has performed valuable functions to Unitarian Universalist and other seniors living in LA. Offering affordable housing for many years, Sunset Hall was noted for its cultural events, educational classes, political/current events discussions, and socialization programs, and as a residence for some of our most progressive, radical, left-leaning elders.

From an idea initiated by the women of First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles, Sunset Hall was founded on May 4, 1923, beginning with one shared house for elders on Manhattan Place, LA. Its larger, purpose-built assistive residential facility that opened at 2830 Francis Place in the 1960's, had space for 50 residents. Before the sale of that building in the early 2000's, a brief, but arresting documentary film was made, featuring 81-year-old Irja Lloyd and her close friend, 95-year-old Lucille Alpert. (It may still be possible to stream the movie somewhere.)

The building aged, falling into disrepair, and eventually was emptied, but Sunset Hall continued to deliver those programs at other facilities and expanded into providing healthy aging initiatives to diverse people living independently in low-income housing for the elderly. Always precarious, finances seemed to be shored up by Sunset's participation in the EPIC research project (Elders Preserving Independence in the Community).

And then COVID. Programs and research were put on hold, or discontinued, which signaled the beginning of the end. No longer did the Board of Directors function, nor did fundraising efforts continue. In August, the Executive Director retired.

In a few weeks, members (donors, past and present) will meet, in person and online, to approve a Resolution to Dissolve this century-old, extraordinary UU institution. If you would like information about that event, please contact Sandra Kroll (sdkroll10@gmail.com).



### Saturday, December 2, 2023 9:00am to 1:00pm

JOIN US FOR THE

### UUCLB Facilities WORK PARTY & DECORATING PARTY

The Facilities Committee invites you to the monthly UUCLB Work Party. This is an event where volunteers of all ages gather to maintain our campus and make minor repairs. Show up any time during the party to do just one task or many tasks.

The Facilities Committee prepares and posts a list of tasks that need to be done. These include recurring tasks and those requested by the staff or committees or congregants. Tasks that are not completed will be on the list for the next work party. Following are the types of tasks on the list: gardening, cleaning, checking and replacing, maintenance...and this month we will be Santa's Elves, helping with holiday decorating!

### See You at the Work Party!

For December we meet on the First Saturday of the month

(But the Second Saturday of each Month is our usual Work Party day.)

# The Holiday Boutique and Plant Sale Event was a HUGE SUCCESS!







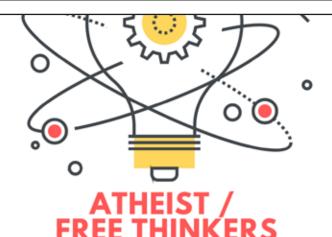




Thank you to everyone who donated time, talent and treausre for ths wonderful UUCLB fundraiser. (And a big Thank You to the Shoppers, too!)



ANNOUNCEMENTS 15



First & Third Mondays: 2:30pm
Join Us in the Lounge or via ZOOM
For ZOOM link
please go to uuclb.org/calendar

If you want to find out why we don't believe, join us in discussion or give us your argument!

**EVERYONE WELCOME!** 

atheist@uuclb.org



### **Make a Tribute!**

Make a Memorial Tribute in memory of, or to say "Thank You" to someone for a gift, a good deed, a job well done, or just to tell someone "You are special!"

You can make your Tribute by check or use tithe.ly. Checks should be made out to UUCLB and marked "Tribute To (insert name here)". For text-to-give, text the words "Tribute for (insert name)" and the amount to 833-931-1845.

If making a tribute by check, mail to: UUCLB, 5450 E Atherton St., Long Beach, CA 90815

Your Tribute will be posted on the bulletin board and in the weekly announcement.

## **VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED**

Your Adult Faith Development Team Requests

UUR Common Read Facilitators

Discussion Facilitators

Arts and Crafts Leaders

Event Planners, Helpers and Hosts

Event Videographers and Photographers

Event Summary Writers

To Support Upcoming Programming Contact Kathy Adams & Michael Lyde at afd.chair@uuclb.org for more information

## Congratulations to the Rev. Katy Kroll Swanson and the Rev. Matthew McHale!

The Unitarian Universalist Association has awarded Full Fellowship to the Rev. Katy Kroll Swanson and the Rev. Matthew McHale, who grew up in the church and had their calls to ministry nurtured by UUCLB. Full fellowship is the culmination of a long process of ministerial credentialing, dedication, and hard work.

Rev. Katy serves as a Hospital Chaplain at Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego. She was ordained in 2018 by UUCLB. Katy is Board Certified by the Association of Professional Chaplains. Rev. Matthew began his Ministry at Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church in August 2016. He was raised as a Unitarian Universalist and was also ordained by UUCLB.

Congratulations to the Revs. Katy and Matthew! We are so proud of you!



# Contemporary Book Club READING LIST 2024

#### January 28

**Everybody's Fool**, Richard Russo (2016). A highly acclaimed novel filled with humor, heart, hard times, and characters who you can't help but love. A good start for a new year.

#### February 25

**Oh William**, Elizabeth Strout (2021). A prequel to our Strout read in 2023 (Lucy by the Sea), we now see Lucy Barton and her ex-husband William. (Could this mean a Strout-a-year for us?)

#### March 24

**Lessons in Chemistry**, Bonnie Garmus (2022). Shrewdly observant cooking show host Elizabeth teaches women how to cook while changing the status quo. Laugh-out-loud funny for Women's History Month.

#### April 28

**A Separate Peace**, John Knowles (1959). An American classic and PBS 'Great American Read'. A timeless coming of age novel of adolescence during World War II.

#### May 26

**MAUS I and MAUS II**, Art Spiegelman (1986 & 1991)-Graphic novels. Survivor tales of Nazi deathcamps done through a new medium--disarming cartoons. A set, read both please.

#### lune 23

**The Arrangement**, Kiersten Modglin (2021). How to repair a broken marriage with silence, deceit, suspicion, and temptation.

#### July 28

**Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow**, Gabrielle Zevin (2022). A modern love story in which two childhood friends reunite as adults to find love in the digital world.

#### August 25

**An American Beauty: A Novel of the Gilded Age**, Shana Abé (2023). A railroad baron moves a gambling girl to New York. Based on the life of Arabella Huntington.

#### September 22

**Tom Lake**, Ann Patchett (2023). A mother tells her grown daughters how she shared the stage and a romance with a famous actor, which leads to questions, misunderstandings, and revelations. (The audiobook is beautifully read by Meryl Streep.)

#### October 27

**North Woods**, Daniel Mason (2023). A single house in the New England woods tells the lives of those who inhabit it across the centuries.

#### November 24

**The Spy Coast**, Tess Gerritsen (2023). A retired spy finds a body in her driveway. She calls in the 'Martini Club' of other retirees to sleuth out who is trying to kill her.

#### December 22

No book. We take a holiday break.

We meet in person every 4th Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in Room I. Please read the book and come ready to discuss. All are welcome.

MEMBER POETRY 17

### A Joy Meditation

There is joy in the world, ready to be found in quiet and noisy places. It is there waiting patiently to be noticed, to be rejoiced, waiting for our attention.

Joy - what keeps us from the world's despair, what keeps us alive, amongst evil and trouble everywhere.

Joy - quietly waiting for us to discover, with a sparkle of beauty we find or create.

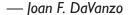
In beauty is the joy that nurtures the soul. When there is joy, hope will not die.



### **A Proud Investor**

I am a proud investor

I used to make nuts and bolts and screws and washers, can't forget the washers all to military specs
The company went broke
I'm out'a work now
Sellin my stock?
Hell, NO
It doubled last year
You might say
I appreciate
my stocks appreciation
I aim to always be
a proud investor





Is it time for you to revise your will or trust, or maybe to develop one for the first time?



When you do, please remember the important role the church has played in your life and your family's life.

Your bequest or other gift will make a difference to the church's long-term future. When you return the Confidential Bequest Form to the church, as directed, the Planned Giving Committee will joyfully welcome you into the UUCLB Legacy Circle.

Go to https://www.uuclb.org/give/planned-giving/for information. Email plannedgiving@uuclb.org with any questions.



Want to announce an Events or submit an article for Publication? Follow the instructions listed below.

Please use the following addresses to communicate events and announcements. Submit as text or MS Word .doc attachment or typed in the body of your email. No special formatting please. Graphics should be attached in .pdf, .jpg or .tiff formats. Please name your files relative to the content, ex.: Green Team March 2020.

**announcements@uuclb.org** — this is the e-blast that comes once a week in your email

#### **DUE DATE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Submit by Tuesdays at noon. Please send a new email each week for each item you would like published because the announcements are created by checking each week's unread emails. We do not have time to go back to see how long each article or announcement should run. Thank you for understanding.

**advance@uuclb.org** — this is the newsletter that comes out monthly in your email. You're reading it now! See info at right.

**calendar@uuclb.org** — send your calendaring requests (room reservations) to this address

Click here to request a ZOOM room reservation or use this link: uuclb.org/zoomres

**socialmedia@uuclb.org** — send your social media requests (facebook / church website) to this address

www.uuclb.org — this is our website...Please take a look!

# ADVANCE NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE CHANGES

**Due: Tuesday, December 19** for the January 2024 issue

Due: Tuesday, January 16 for the February 2024 issue

By 9:00 pm

#### PLEASE BE ON TIME!

Please send your articles and photos to: advance@uuclb.org

Submit as **text** or **MS Word .doc** attachment or **typed in the body of your email**.

No special formatting please.

Graphics should be sent as attachments in .pdf, .jpg or .tiff formats.

The ADVANCE is published monthly and is distributed via email.

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#### **SAVE THE DATES!**

# UUCLB 2023-24 CONCERTS Coming Soon!

#### **DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**Duck Soup Trio** 

**FEBRUARY II, 2024** 

Performers soon to be announced

**MARCH 3, 2024** 

Performers soon to be announced

**APRIL 4, 2024** 

Performers soon to be announced

MAY 5, 2024

**Mark Sullivan Piano Concert** 



## The Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach

Your monetary gifts sustain our beloved community and enable us to further embody our values through our gatherings, programs, and community outreach. Please consider UUCLB in your charitable gifts for 2023-24.

#### **UUCLB.org/GIVE**

#### **UUCLB STAFF**

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#### 2022–23 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President, Edie Mickey-Silveria, boardpresident@uuclb.org ...to address the Board, board@uuclb.org

#### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 1:00pm by phone, appointment or email phone: (562) 597-8445 (Please leave a message) email: office@uuclb.org

View past Sunday Services at www.facebook.com/UUCLB