

Our Mission

Our mission is to create community, to nurture spiritual growth, and to act on our values to help heal the world. Nuestra misión es crear comunidad, fomentar el crecimiento espiritual y vivir nuestros valores para ayudar a sanar el mundo.

Our Eight Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- 1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- 2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- 3. Acceptance of one another, and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- 4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- 5. The right of conscience, and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- 6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all:
- 7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part;
- 8. Building a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and oppressions.

Monthly Worship Themes: March/Transformation and April/Interdependence

Hillcrest Campus Location 4190 Front Street San Diego, CA 92103 619-298-9978

Hillcrest Services 10 am Sundays

March 31 - Easter "Embodied Love"

Rev. Justine Sullivan and Swamini Adityananda Saraswati

April 7 "Resist False Choices"

Rev. Justine Sullivan, Lead Minister

March Generosity Offering 5th Sunday Generosity Offering

Partner Church in Romania

On this 5th Sunday of the month, we direct our generosity offering to support the important work of our Transylvanian Partner Church, in Brassó, Romania. This special relationship has lasted for 30 years now! There have been visits and much learning about our shared faith. Now, ongoing strains from the War in nearby Ukraine have led the Brassó Congregation to expand their social services, including food deliveries for the homebound. Today's Offering will help the congregation support their local community in a time of great need. You can donate at church or on our *website*, under gift designation select "Generosity."

South Bay Campus Location 970 Broadway, Suite 104 Chula Vista, CA 91911 619-271-5017

South Bay Services 10 am Sundays

March 31 - Easter "Transforming Love"

Rev. Kristen Kuriga and Lexi Pulido/South Bay Band

April 7 "Resist False Choices"

Livestream of the Hillcrest Service

Journey Toward Wholeness (JTW) What Can I Do?

How the Federal Income Tax System Can Worsen Racial Disparities

Despite tax laws created to reduce racial disparities, the racial wealth gap in the U.S. has been widening since the 1980s. According to the Tax Policy Center, "White families hold nearly every type of asset (such as retirement accounts and businesses) at higher rates than families of color." The U.S. Department of the Treasury estimates that "92 percent of the tax value of the preferential treatment of long-term capital gains went to White families in 2023." Yet, White families represent only 67 percent of all families. Learn more at the Tax Policy Center's well-designed and comprehensive blog here.

What's Happening?

Holy Week at First UU

The week before Easter is a holy time in the Christian calendar. On Friday, March 29 Tony Bianca and Rev. Justine will lead a "Good Friday" service in the chapel at 7 pm. This is a contemplative service, with readings and songs of lamentation that allow space for us to sit with feelings of loss and sorrow as we prepare to celebrate rebirth on Easter. On Saturday, March 30, Rev. Kristen and some members of the congregation will participate in a walk for Gaza, (See Rev. Kristen's article for more details). On Easter Sunday, March 31, we will have services at both campuses, including the Wheel of Life ritual, reading the names of those who have died over the last two years. Please note the Flower communion will be held in April, not on Easter Sunday.

Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage San Diego

Saturday, March 30

(opportunities to participate throughout the day)
During this season of lent, people of faith in over 145
cities in 18 countries are engaging in a Gaza Ceasefire
Pilgrimage in their cities. The intention is to embody
prayerful solidarity with those who are suffering in Gaza,
the West Bank, and Israel. During the pilgrimage,
participants will be praying for:

- 1. Enduring and Sustained Ceasefire.
- 2. Immediate flow of life-saving food, water, aid, fuel and humanitarian assistance.
- 3. Release of all hostages both the Israeli hostages held by Hamas and the Palestinian hostages held in the Israeli prison system.
- 4. End of occupation so a just-peace can begin.

You can learn more about the local San Diego Pilgrimage, including the schedule and route, here: https://www.facebook.com/events/394002796716735

You can learn more about the global movement and its principles here:

https://www.gazaceasefirepilgrimage.com/

Two Board of Trustees Candidates Sought

Interested in serving on the Board of Trustees? Church members are still being sought for two Trustee-at-Large positions to work with five incumbent Board members. Three candidate positions have been filled for the elections in June.

Email <u>nomcom@firstuusandiego.org</u> or call 858-449-0431 if you are interested.

Register for All Church Camp

Join us for All Church Camp at de Benneville Pines May 31 — June 2! For more information and to register, visit: www.firstuusandiego.org/all-church-camp.html.

Contact **Rose** to add your group's info to the Window!

Our Church Family

Celebration of Life for Anneliese Tift

Saturday, March 30, 11 am, Meeting House with reception to follow in Bard Hall.

Celebration of Life for Linda Sola

Saturday, March 30, at 1:30 pm in the Chapel. Linda died on March 11th at home with her two daughters (Katie and Patricia) by her side. Please join us for a celebration of Linda's life in our chapel on Saturday, March 30 at 1:30 pm. Reception to follow at Linda's home.

We're Hiring!

First UU San Diego is hiring for a full-time Membership and Social Justice Coordinator. <u>Here is a link</u> to the position description and how to apply. Share with your networks or anyone you think might be interested in applying. Questions? Contact Rev. Kristen Kuriga, <u>kristen@firstuusandiego.org</u>, 619-398-4435.

Two UU Conferences in April

April 19-21: UUA Pacific Western Region will hold its biennial Assembly in Denver. There will be no delegates or voting but it will feature UUA President Rev. Sofia Betancourt's Keynote address which will be remotely broadcast. This talk plus several workshops by prominent UUs including our previous members, Dr. Melissa James and Sarah Gibb Millspaugh, will be also available remotely. More information at <u>bit.ly/PWregion</u>

April 26-28: Camp de Benneville Pines Annual Assembly held in Ventura. We need to send 10 delegates to Ventura or to attend by ZOOM to elect board members, and do the business of our precious mountain resource. There will be camp status reports by Janet James and our own Pat Gordon, Board President in addition to workshops and entertainment. More information and registration at bit.ly/CampAssembly. Want to be a delegate? Contact johnschaibly@gmail.com.

Transforming Conflict Learning Series

What's your relationship with conflict? As a congregation, we want to learn how to engage with conflict in loving and covenantal ways. Join us for a learning series on the book *Transforming Conflict: The Blessings of Congregational Turmoil* by Terasa Cooley. Copies of the book are available at church or you can purchase a copy here: https://a.co/d/e0INIEv

Mark your calendar and join us for the below zoom session where we will read, reflect, and practice new skills. You are welcome to join us even if you couldn't make other sessions. Before the session, read the chapters and bring a quote with you to share. On zoom and will be co-facilitated by Rev. Justine Sullivan and Rev. Kristen Kuriga: https://zoom.us/i/7434659479

Session 5: Chapters 9-10, 4/9, 6:30 pm — 8 pm

What's Happening?

Friday, March 29th 7pm - 8pm In the Chapel Rev Justine and Tony will lead this service that invites us into the shadows to sit with feelings of

Hillcrest In-Person Social Hour

lamentation and sorrow.

March 31, Sundays, following worship, Bard Hall. Join your community in Bard Hall after the service for coffee, snacks, and conversation.

Virtual Social Hour

March 31, Sundays, 11 am, <u>bit.ly/FirstUUSocialHour</u>, Meeting ID 824 042 297. Password: FUUSD.

Open Heart Sangha

March 31, Sundays, weekly, 4 pm — 5:30 pm, Bard Hall. The Open Heart Sangha, practicing mindfulness meditation in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh. All are welcome! Contact Marge, <u>margewur@gmail.com</u>.

Women's Choir

April 1, Mondays, 7 pm, Bard Hall. Join this warm and welcoming group of women who create community through joyful, spirit-filled singing. No experience required.

D4\$ 2024: Events are Now Needed!

D4\$ is our beloved community-building fundraising auction of different events between June 2024 and December 2024. We're trying a semi-annual format this year for the first time. We need You! Consider being a host for a fun-filled event at your home, on a hike, at the beach, or a myriad of different activities or destinations that folks can bid on during the month of May. Please go to our <u>D4\$ webpage</u> for a link to the online event submission form and creative ideas on what to offer. Submit your event(s) no later than April 15. If you'd like to volunteer in-person at church on Sundays to help folks with this, contact *Laurie Crehan* or *Robie Evans*.

Chalice Choir

April 3, Wednesdays, 7 pm, Bard Hall. Join us for singing and fun with First UU's largest musical ensemble.

The Racialized Identities Awareness Book Group

April 5, Friday, 6:30 pm — 8 pm, Room 323. *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates will be discussed. Please come and join us, contact *Louise Titlow*.

Reception for LGBTQ Youth Art show

April 6, Saturday, 6 pm - 8 pm, Bard Hall. Please support San Diego Pride's youth program and First UU Art Guild by attending the LGBTQ Youth Art Show. Youth will talk about their artwork and refreshments will be served. Contact **Keaslerart@gmail.com** for more details

Board Chat

April 7, Sunday, 12:30 pm, bit.ly/FirstUUBoardChat.

Hillcrest Song Circle

April 7, first Sundays, 2 pm — 4 pm, Room 323. As always, bring your guitar/and or voice. This is a fun chance to sing—we are not a choir. For information contact wombated@gmail.com or cmack5913@gmail.com.

03-19-24 Board Meeting Review and Digest

- Received an update from our Nominating Committee
- Update on South Bay Property Purchase
- Our Sustainable Future core team has met and is getting started on this important work
- The Right Relations Team continues their good work

Coping With Chronic Conditions Support Group

April 8, second and fourth Mondays, 1:30 pm — 3 pm, zoom. Contact <u>Chris</u> <u>Smith</u> prior to attending 619-300-7477.

Caregivers/Allies Support Group

April 8, second Mondays & fourth Tuesdays, 4 pm — 5:30 pm, zoom. The Caregivers/Allies Support Group is welcoming prospective new participants. For additional information about participating contact *Les Vivian*.

Neighborhood Group without Borders

April 10, second Wednesdays, 11 am — 1 pm, 4349 Adams Ave, San Diego, CA 92116. Susan Riegel Harding invites you to a brown bag lunch. Chat, play games, plant succulents, whatever we feel like doing. Coffee, water, and beverages will be provided. Text RSVP to 619-987-6234.

Our Grief Journeys

April 11 second & fourth Thursdays, until May 28, 1:30 pm — 3 pm, Room 323. This is a safe, supportive space for sharing our unique experiences of grief & loss, co-facilitated by Marcia Biller and *Karen Thurston*.

Book Club

April 11, second Thursdays, 6 pm, Zoom. We will be discussing *Mecca* by Susan Straight. Contact *Minastaylor@qmail.com* for info.

Finance Committee Meeting

April 11, Thursday, 6:30 pm, link in the members area of the *website*. Non-committee members do not take part in discussions or have a vote.

Memory Matters Gathering

April 12, second and fourth Fridays, 10 am — 11:30 am, online, with Kathy Gilbert, LCSW, and Gay Hybertsen, LCSW. For those who worry about memory problems and their care partners. Email hybertsen@att.net for the link.

Women Together Meeting

April 13, second Saturdays, 12 pm — 2 pm, Common Room. Come visit old friends, meet new friends, and experience sharing with a caring group of women. New members welcome. Contact *obata.claudia@gmail.com*.

What's Happening?

Dances of Universal Peace

April 13, second Saturdays, 4 pm — 6 pm, Bard Hall. A heart-centered circle dance combining movement, sound, and breath. Embracing the many sacred traditions of humanity, this practice promotes peace with live music and open-hearted friends. All movements and chants are taught and no experience is necessary.

Kirtan Chanting

April 13, second Saturdays, 6 pm — 7 pm, Common Room. Join Patita Pavana of Spirit Soul And Friends along with our event host. James Long, for an evening of Kirtan.

South Bay Campus

South Bay Worship

Sundays, 10 am, South Bay Worship Hall. Join the South Bay community for Worship every Sunday.

South Bay Wisdom Circle

April 14, second Sundays, 11:30 am, South Bay Worship Hall. Join us for inspiring conversations about this month's theme of Transformation. Each month offers the gift of connecting with members of our beloved community to discuss inspiring and important issues, and revel in the wisdom that emerges. The South Bay Wisdom Circle will be facilitated by our intern minister, Swamini Adityananda Saraswait. Contact *swamini@firstuusandiego.org*.

Family & Lifespan

Sunday RE

This Sunday, March 31st, we'll celebrate Easter. There will be one, all-ages RE Group during the 10 am Service for children and youth featuring crafts, face painting and more. Following the Service, we'll host our annual Easter Egg Hunt with an indoor backup plan if it's raining.

Young Adult Group (ages 22 - 35)

Tuesdays, 5:30 pm — 7 pm. Room 114b was impacted by the recent rainstorm. If you are interested in attending young adult group contact Young Adult Coordinator, *Lara Anderson* for guidance on temporary meeting locations.

Parents' Lounge

Join other parents for conversation and community after the 10 am Service on Sunday, April 7th. Tony will lead a conversation: "What Nourishes You and What Do You Need?"

Upcoming MultiGen Service - April 21st

April 21st will be a MultiGen Service featuring Flower Communion, stories, magic and music that includes the Sesame Street and Avengers Theme Songs!

Register for All Church Camp

We hope you can join us for All Church Camp at deBeneville Pines May 31 - June 2nd! For more information and to register, visit: https://www.firstuusandiego.org/all-church-camp.html

Social Justice

Climate Action:

Is Your Insurance Feeding the Climate Crisis?

Big insurance companies are insuring major fossil fuel projects. They drop policies and raise rates for climate vulnerable communities. Learn whether your insurance company invests in fossil fuels and find a responsible insurance company at this May 15 webinar Aligning Your Money with Your Values: Responsible Home and Auto Insurance. Webinar Registration - Zoom Sign the petition to insure communities and not fossil fuels. Big Insurance: Stop profiting off fossil fuels while leaving customers holding the climate crisis bag | (greenamerica.org)

UU Justice Ministry of California Border Pilgrimage

"Building Homes, Creating Community" House Build Project. April 4 — 7, 2024. We are excited to offer an in-person immersion experience for individuals interested in engaging with the realities of immigration at the California border. Registration is free but don't hesitate to make a financial contribution if you can. Youth and Adults are welcome to attend the Pilgrimage. Learn more: uuimca.ora/building-homes-creating-community/

South Bay Food Pantry News

Need Support?

Could you or someone you know use support with food, blankets, or other basic needs? Let a minister or staff person know, or call the pantry office: (619) 271-5017.

How to Donate to the South Bay Food Pantry

Donate online or by check payable to FUUSD with "SB Food Pantry" in the memo. Mail to 4190 Front St., 92103.

The South Bay Food Pantry...

is located at 970 Broadway, Suite 101, Chula Vista 91911. Open to the public Saturdays 11 am — 12:30 pm. Contact *foodpantry@firstuusandiego.org* or 619-271-5017.

Food Pantry Needs Your Grocery Bags!

The pantry can use the plastic grocery bags you're collecting! And we always need easy-open no-cook food, hygiene items, and adult incontinence supplies. Drop off in Hillcrest on Sunday morning in the Meeting House.

Midweek Bagging

Thursdays, 11 am — 12:30 pm, South Bay Campus Room 105. Join us putting together bags of healthy food for Saturday's distribution. Drop by or check ahead with **foodpantry@firstuusandiego.org**.

Cluster News

An Invitation from the San Dieguito Fellowship

UUFSD welcomes you to join us April 14-16 at Camp de Benneville Pines. We will offer a creative writing experience with Eberly Barnes, chair of the writing department at Roosevelt College at UCSE, yoga, hiking, art, and improv games. Kids can explore, try archery, and play games. All are welcome. Registration is at <u>UUFSD.org</u>. Questions to <u>chrisfaller5@gmail.com</u> or <u>christieturner@gmail.com</u>.

Week at a Glance Calendar

Friday, March 29, 2024

Friday, 7 pm - 8 pm, Chapel for the Tenebrae Service.

Saturday, March 30, 2024

Saturday, 11 am, Meeting House and Bard Hall. COL for Anneliese Tift.

Saturday, 1:30 pm, Chapel. COL for Linda Sola.

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Worship Service & Livestream

In person or *online* at 10 am! Outdoor viewing available.

South Bay Worship Service

Sundays, 10 am, South Bay Worship Hall.

Hillcrest In Person Social Hour

Sundays, following service, Bard Hall. Coffee and tea provided.

Virtual Social Hour

Sundays, 11 am, <u>bit.ly/FirstUUSocialHour</u>, Meeting ID 824 042 297. Password: FUUSD.

Food Pantry Food Distribution

Saturdays, 11 am — 1 pm, South Bay Campus. Volunteers arrive by 10:30 am to staff a station. *foodpantry@firstuusandiego.org*.

Open Heart Sangha

Sundays, 4 pm — 5:30 pm, Bard Hall. margewur@gmail.com.

Monday, April 1, 2024

Women's Choir

Mondays, 7 pm — 8:30 pm, Bard Hall.

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Young Adult Group

Tuesdays, 5:30 pm — 7 pm. Contact *Lara* for location info.

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Wednesdays, 7 pm — 8:30 pm, Bard Hall.

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Food Pantry Midweek Bagging

Thursdays, 11 am - 12:30 pm, South Bay Campus Room 105. Join us putting together bags of healthy food for Saturday's distribution. *foodpantry@firstuusandiego.org*.

Upcoming Events

The Racialized Identities Awareness Book Group

April 5, Friday, 6:30 pm — 8 pm, Room 323. *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates will be discussed. Please come and join us, and contact *Louise Titlow* if you're interested.

Reception for LGBTQ Youth Art show

April 6, Saturday, 6 pm - 8 pm, Bard Hall. Please support San Diego Pride's youth program and First UU Art Guild by attending the LGBTQ Youth Art Show.

Board Chat

April 7, first Sundays, 12:30 pm, *bit.ly/FirstUUBoardChat*, Meeting ID: 863 0218 5062 Passcode: 203946.

Hillcrest Song Circle

April 7, first Sundays, 2 pm — 4 pm, Room 323. Bring your guitar/and or voice. <u>Wombated@gmail.com</u> or <u>cmack5913@gmail.com</u>.

Coping With Chronic Conditions Support Group

April 8, second and fourth Mondays, 1:30 pm — 3 pm, zoom. Contact *Chris Smith* prior to attending 619-300-7477.

Caregivers/Allies Support Group

April 8, second Mondays & fourth Tuesdays, 4 pm — 5:30 pm, zoom. For additional information about participating contact <u>Les Vivian</u>.

Neighborhood Group without Borders

April 10, second Wednesdays, 11 am — 1 pm, 4349 Adams Ave, San Diego, CA 92116. Text RSVP to 619-987-6234 to reserve one of 14 available spaces.

Our Grief Journeys

April 11, second & fourth Thursdays, until May 28, 1:30 pm — 3 pm, Room 323. This is a safe, supportive space for sharing our unique experiences of grief & loss, co-facilitated by Marcia Biller and *Karen Thurston*.

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April 11, Thursday, 6:30 pm, link in the members area of the *website*.

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April 12, second and fourth Fridays, 10 am — 11:30 am, online. For those who worry about memory problems and their care partners. Email hybertsen@att.net for the link.

Women Together Meeting

April 13, second Saturdays, 12 pm — 2 pm, Common Room. Contact Claudia *obata.claudia@gmail.com*.

Dances of Universal Peace

April 13, second Saturdays, 4 pm — 6 pm, Bard Hall.

Kirtan Chanting

April 13, second Saturdays, 6 pm — 7 pm, Common Room. Join Patita Pavana of Spirit Soul And Friends along with our event host, James Long, for an evening of uplifting Kirtan.

Rainbow Action Group's Koffee Klatch

April 14, second Sundays, 11:15 am — 12:15 pm, Room 323. All family, friends and allies are invited.

Cosmos

April 14, second Sundays, 1 pm — 3 pm, room 323. The only prerequisite is an open heart and mind. Contact <u>James Long</u> for information.

Pending California Bills on Climate and the Environment April 14, Sunday, 3:30 pm https://bit.ly/1stUUClimateJustice

Men's Fellowship 4th Monday Meeting

April 22, Monday, 6 pm, Common Room. (We welcome men who identify as straight, gay or transgender.)

End-of-Life Conversations

April 20, Saturday, 10 am, Bard Hall, UU Seniors. Rev. Justine Sullivan will lead a discussion on how to share the medical end-of-life documents and estate planning documents with your family and loved ones.

Front Street Productions Presents!

April 26, Saturday, 7:30 pm, Meeting House. Front Street Productions presents "Emma's Revolution" concert register to attend this open-seating show through **Eventbrite**.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Window, 4190 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103-2098

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego 4190 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92103-2098 Phone: 619-298-9978, Fax: 619-298-9997 E-mail: mail@firstuusandiego.org

Our Staff

Ministers:

Rev. Justine Sullivan, *Lead Minister*Rev. Kristen Kuriga, *Assistant Minister*Swamini Adityananda Saraswati, *Intern Minister*Rev. Lone Broussard, *Affiliate Minister*Rev. Bonnie Tarwater, Rev. Dr. Everett Howe,
Rev. Frank Placone-Willey, Rev. Julie Forest
and Rev. Katy Swanson, *Community Ministers*Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Owen-Towle, *Minister Emeritus*

Music Staff:

Marshall Voit, Music Director Andrea Spiero, JUUL Tones Ensemble Director Tony Bianca, Handbell Program Director Tomás Acosta, Collaborative Pianist

Staff:

Robie Evans, Director of Operations
Tony Bianca, Director of Lifespan Faith Formation
Rose Littler-Riedel, Communications Coordinator & Chaplain Intern
Lara Anderson, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator
Jazmine Ramanathan, Administrative Assistant
Kate Collier, Program Assistant
Corina Macias, South Bay Ministry Assistant
Pam Bates, Scheduler
Alex Bates-Lamparella, Shelter Project Coordinator
Ray Evans, Facilities Manager
Mark Epler, Event Coordinator

Board of Trustees

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Steve Howard, and Gay Hybertsen **Trustees**

Important E-mail Addresses:

General First Church E-mail: mail@firstuusandiego.org Scheduling of Church Property: schedule@firstuusandiego.org The Window (newsletter): window@firstuusandiego.org First Church Web Site: website@firstuusandiego.org http://www.firstuusandiego.org (Main site) http://www.firstuusandiego.org/uus-of-the-south-bay

(UUs of the South Bay)

Contact the Main Office (Hillcrest Campus):

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego 4190 Front Street, San Diego, California 92103 619-298-9978 • mail@firstuusandiego.org www.firstuusandiego.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday—Friday, 10 am to 2 pm and Sunday after Services

Contact the South Bay Campus (Chula Vista):

Unitarian Universalists of the South Bay 970 Broadway, Suite 101 & 104, Chula Vista, California, 91911 619-271-5017 • uusouthbay@firstuusandiego.org www.firstuusandiego.org/uus-of-the-south-bay Campus Hours: Sunday for Service or By Arrangement