There were plenty of opportunities to sign up to serve at our Ministries Fair on February 16th!

Photos courtesy of Tricia Aynes
Upon the enthusiastic recommendation of the search committee, the Administration Board has hired David Perez to serve as Director of IUCC’s Ministry with Young People (MYP). David brings a rich history in the church, including significant experience organizing and leading youth ministries. He is excited by the prospect of working with IUCC, sharing in our progressive approach to Christian ministry and our commitment to interfaith collaboration.

In his own words, here’s how David introduces himself…

My name is David Perez. I was born in the Philippines, grew up in Southern California, joined the Navy, settled in the Chicago suburbs after being honorably discharged, and made my way back to Southern California in 2018. My wife, Sal, and I have been married for almost 17 years. We have a 10-year old daughter named Hannah and a 6-year old son named Aiden. I love Jesus, my family, DJing, good food, and good coffee (the real stuff — not Starbucks). I also love the Dodgers, Lakers, and Chicago Bears. I’m very passionate about mental health and I’m working to finish my BA in Psychology within the next 2 years.

Please welcome these new members who joined on February 23. Photos courtesy of Tricia Aynes

Ruth Sandberg
Sarah Gilliland

Adam Furtado (L) & Greg Furtado (R) holding son Elliott
Stewardship Campaign

What an exciting and successful 2020 Stewardship Campaign! Do you miss the “Three Wise Men” skits from those Sundays in January? Thank you to everyone who stepped up for the “What Shall We Bring” theme with your gifts of a pledge. You are the ones who truly make IUCC a special and unique spiritual home. Even though the campaign is formally over, we are still a bit short of our goal of $380,000 and we need your help. For those who have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider pledging today! It’s simple through the website: iucc.org/giving/pledge

See you in church!

Susie Lang & Janet Emery
Co-Chairs of the Fund Development Committee

Farewell, Joan

On Feb. 16, IUCC bid a fond farewell to long-time member Joan Thompson, who will be moving away from Irvine to be closer to family. The choir sung an introit written by Joan’s late husband, Hal, and she was presented with a card “shower” and received a group blessing from the congregation. Joan is surrounded by her many friends in the photos below. Godspeed, Joan - we will miss you!

Congregational Meeting

At our Winter Congregational Meeting on February 9, 2020, IUCC voted unanimously to approve the budget!

Photos courtesy of Tricia Aynes
March is a big month for Adult Programs. First, we've got author/blogger John Pavlovitz in the house! Often called “pastor to the Resistance,” he's a speaker you don't want to miss. And he's here all day on Sunday, March 15 – preaching at both worship services in the morning, and speaking and answering questions at 1:00 in the afternoon. A light lunch will be available, with a vegetarian option.

There's also a small-group dinner with John Pavlovitz on Saturday evening at 6:00, at Irvine's Two Left Forks restaurant; it can be an “Add On” when you register. Make sure your lecture seat is reserved and your lunch prepared – please! – sign up online at www.iucc.org/register.

The season of Lent has begun, and we've also got two special educational opportunities. First, in our Sunday morning classes (8:45 & 10:00), Al Gumb will be presenting a new Marcus Borg DVD, “Beyond Belief,” featuring his wife, Rev. Marianne Borg.

And on Wednesdays starting March 11, Pastor Dave will lead “Reclaiming Paul,” a 4-week series presenting the Apostle as a progressive ally. Sessions meet over lunch at noon or at 7:00 pm. You can sign up – and purchase the book Paul the Progressive? by Prof. Eric C. Smith – online at iucc.org/register.

And that's not all! In fact, this is one of our busiest months in a long time. We've got 3 other Sunday afternoon events planned, each with some snacks or a light lunch to keep you around after worship.

On March 8, Ben Honeycutt will share what he's learned, from research and his own experience out of need, on the benefits of a Plant-Based Diet. On March 22, Scott Bollens will update us on his research into Divided Cities. And on March 29, we'll host Orange County United Way's Homelessness 101 program. Make the most of your Sundays this month!

Don't forget the other opportunities to learn, explore, and discuss – TED Talks on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m., and Yoga of Recovery on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 7:30 a.m.

Ever since I was a kid, travel has been one of the great joys of my life, and not just as a tourist.

“Rest and Recreation” tourism is great and, from cruise ships to resort stays, I've enjoyed it. But my most rewarding experiences of travel have been more adventurous, moving beyond sites and scenery into opportunities for building relationships with people and their culture. They have involved a sojourn somewhere beyond my normal comfort zone, lodging with a local family or another kind of intentional community, eating like a local, using public transportation, daily dealing with local language and customs. Always, for me, there has been a local engagement with the Church, that most global institution, offering a chance to share work and celebration in faith and friendship.

One of the things I most enjoy about IUCC is finding here people who relish such adventurous travel: the appreciative exploration of other lands, peoples and cultures through which we may find a fresh recognition of ourselves, a deeper understanding of who we are, insight and inspiration for who we are becoming.

On the other hand, even people who love to travel will experience some anxiety around packing: deciding what we most need, how much we can carry, and what should be left behind. What will serve and suit the journey, and have we left room enough from something new?

It's helpful to think about Lent as such an adventure. For 40 days, biblical code for a long time, we follow the story of Jesus, his ministry and teaching on the way to Jerusalem, facing with him the question: who are you really and what are you about? Through him we are challenged to see ourselves in a new way, invited to insight and inspiration for who we are becoming. And we are called to make some choices for what we really need on this journey, and what we can just as well leave behind, making room for something new to happen in our lives. Maybe resurrection?

Wishing you a soulful Lent. I'll see you in church,

Pastor Dave
Several Sundays ago, our Administrative Pastor and Adult Programs Director, the Rev. Steve Swope, used this quote in his sermon:

*I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything; but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.*

What an important idea to think about as we begin thinking about selecting and electing IUCC Lay Leaders for 2020-21! And an important idea for you to think about as you ponder how you can be involved in the life of IUCC! At the recent Ministries and Committees Fair, tables were staffed by our current leaders and they offered a myriad of activities, events, and meetings that you can be part of. If you missed this event, here’s the information for each ministry and committee (and the current chair) of IUCC.

Look it over, join in, get involved - I promise you that your life will be enriched beyond words! As the quote says, *I can do something* and as always, we will offer that gift in faith and community.

**IUCC Ministries**

**Adult Programs** – Develops, plans and implements educational programs for adults; works with the Administrative Pastor. *(Eduardo Arismendi-Pardi)*  
**Advocates for Peace & Justice** – Promotes causes related to our identification as an Open & Affirming, Just Peace, Global Mission, and Creation Justice (GREENfaith) Church. *(Dave Smith)*  
**Congregational Care** – Provides support to the church community in times of need by: praying, sending cards, visiting, and providing prayer shawls, meals, and rides. *(Lorraine Fox & Cheryl Arismendi)*  
**Communications** – Educates the community about IUCC’s vision and invites them to join in fulfilling that vision. *(Cindy O’Dell)*  
**Deacons** – Prepares our facilities for worship services, including set-up, oversight, and clean-up. *(Cheryl Trobiani)*  
**Fellowship** – Arranges activities and programs which help friends and members develop stronger relationships with each other and a closer sense of community within the church. *(August Lobato, Jr.)*  
**Hospitality** – Provides coffee service and refreshments concurrent with worship services and at the request of other ministries or staff. *(Alex Ingal & Teri Olson)*  

**Membership** - Welcomes and provides information about IUCC to prospective members and informs them about ways to be involved in the life of the church. *(Randy Romine & Tommie Kozlov)*  

**Ministry with Young People** – Plans and implements educational and social programs for children, youth, young adults and young families. *(Lauren Louie & Shanthi Nataraj)*  

**Mission & Service** – Identifies and informs members of opportunities to promote the values of love, justice, and peace. *(Steve Goetz & Sharon Lynn)*  

**Music** – Supports the music program and events at IUCC. *(Pat Sauter)*  

**Stephen Ministry** – Provides care to individuals experiencing crisis or challenge; works with the Senior Pastor. *(Janet Johnson & Jeanne Maag)*  

**Worship** – Assists the pastor(s) in planning the order of worship, prepares the sacraments, and maintains the atmosphere of worship services including special services. *(Natasha Dahline)*  

** IUCC Committees**

**Building & Grounds** – Maintains the church facilities with assistance from staff and volunteers. *(Teri Houston)*  

**Bylaws, Policies & Procedures** – Recommends changes to the Bylaws for congregational approval and creates or modifies existing policies and procedures at the request of the Ministries or Administration Board. *(Diane Rust)*  

**Childcare Center** – Provides direction and oversight to the Child Care Center to ensure that it provides a quality program compatible with the mission of IUCC; acts as liaison to the Admin Board and the congregation. *(Keith Boyum)*  

**Fund Development** – Organizes and implements the stewardship campaign and oversees other fundraising opportunities. *(Janet Emery & Susie Lang)*  

**GREENfaith** – Organizes educational events and actions connected to IUCC’s Creation Justice commitment to respect, care for, and protect the earth and all creatures. *(Chuck Heath)*  

**Open & Affirming** – Organizes educational and action events that promote and demonstrate IUCC’s commitment to a full welcome for all people, including the LGBTQ community.  

**Technology** – Provides technology support to staff and ministries.  

** IUCC Task Forces**

**Diversity & Inclusion** – Supports the full inclusion and welcome of all those who enter our doors and our community and provides opportunities for exploration, exposure, awareness, and education. *(Felicity Figueroa & Lesli Mitchell)*  

**Emergency Preparedness** – Reviews IUCC’s disaster plans and preparedness and makes recommendations to enhance the safety of members, staff, and preschool children. *(Mark Allen)*
Achieving milestones is a common metaphor for making progress. Your Pastoral Search Committee has some milestones in the rear view mirror, a few near to hand, and a few that are still down the road.

Our earlier milestones achieved, as reported in this newsletter, have included:

- Completion of the Congregational Profile for IUCC;
- Releasing that Profile publicly to IUCC members and friends, receiving feedback on it, and improving it in light of that feedback;
- Posting our job listing on the United Church of Christ website; and
- Receiving Ministerial Profiles from individuals who would like to be considered for our Senior Pastor opening.

The Job Right Now. Since posting our job opening and brief description early this new year, we have been receiving and evaluating Ministerial Profiles, which arrive in groups of two to four or five about once a week. Our key job is to read and evaluate them.

The profiles follow a standard format in which the candidates describe their interests in ministry in three brief essays, and describe their particular talents and achievements in a summary way. They go on to review their educational histories, and - probably more importantly - the work they have done in pastoring congregations through their careers. In this, they highlight achievements in their previous positions, and these - together with comments from three referees included in each Profile - help us to gain a sense of the experiences and successes in a candidate’s record.

If you think about it, our job is to say no to candidates until we find the one to whom we want to say yes! With that in mind, each Search Committee member independently reviews each Ministerial Profile, and each of us assigns a number of points across several elements or criteria to each candidate.

Following committee discussion, we send most candidates a polite notice that we will not continue in discernment with them. But for a subset of the candidates, we have been taking next steps. Via e-mail, we ask those candidates some supplementary questions; we listen to sermons, which are on the Internet in nearly every instance; and with that listening done and with the answers to our supplementary questions in hand, we again ask the question of whether to continue in discernment with the individual. We discard some candidates at that point.

The Milestones Immediately Ahead. In early March, we will be conducting telephone interviews with the referees for a small number of candidate(s) in whom we have continuing interest. We have a pre-set list of questions to ask in the interviews, probing for strengths and weaknesses, and looking for real evidence of talents and accomplishments across candidates’ careers.

Following interviews with referees, we will consider when to move on to interviewing a small number of the most likely candidates. We’ll do interviews via Zoom video technology, or on the phone, taking care to ask virtually the same questions of each, via the same technology (Zoom, phone).

In the end, we read. We listen. We discuss. We pray. We discern. We seek further evidence. We further discern. We discard most Ministerial Profiles. We cherish a small number.

Anticipating Final Milestones.

- The day is not far off when we will announce that new Ministerial Profiles will no longer be accepted for review, as we concentrate on four or fewer individuals.
- Following still-further discernment, we look forward to a small number of in-person interviews.
- Then with God’s help, we will settle on one individual who will offer a sermon at a “neutral pulpit,” a sister UCC church not too far away, and the Search Committee will be in the audience, listening and reaching some judgments.

Pastoral Search Committee article continued on page 7
• When again with God’s help we are ready, we will announce a name, offer a rich description of the individual, and hold a “candidating weekend” when all IUCC members and friends can meet and mingle with the candidate.
• The culmination of that big weekend will be a sermon delivered here at IUCC by the identified individual, following by a special congregational meeting to vote yes or no on that person.

When will this all culminate, come to fruition? Well, as Yogi Berra might have said, making predictions is hard, especially about the future. It is very tempting not to offer a forecast or expected timeline. But that does not seem fair.

So, bearing in mind that these dates may slip a little: My current guess is for a candidating weekend in the late spring or early summer. Then, assuming a favorable congregational vote to call a new pastor, and following agreement about job details in conversations with the Administration Board, the newly-identified “settled” pastor for IUCC is very likely to need some weeks to finish up at a current position. So depending upon all of those details, the new pastor may be on the ground here in Irvine by mid-summer to early fall.

Please keep our work in your prayers! We will report back again as milestones are achieved.

In Faith and Service,
Keith Boyum for the Pastoral Search Committee

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**Bordered City, Bounded Mind**

*Soul Trekking in the World’s Divided Cities*

Scott Bollens
Sunday, March 22, 2020
Plumer Hall, IUCC
12:15 p.m.
Lunch / refreshments

Politically contested cities in Israel, Palestine, South Africa, Northern Ireland, Spain, former Yugoslavia, and Cyprus represent a complex and emotional kaleidoscope of hostility and competition among groups defined by ethnic, religious, and nationalistic identity.

Based on over 25 years of research, fieldwork, and more than 350 interviews, IUCC member Scott Bollens will engage church members with intimate and provocative perspectives about his encounters with people living in cities of enduring political conflict and tension.
Mission & Service

Save the Date! IUCC will be hosting Family Promise participants April 5 – 19
Sharon Lynn, Co-chair, Mission & Service

Thank you all for your enthusiastic support of Family Promise when we hosted last August. Please mark our April hosting dates on your calendar in case you might like to volunteer! Think about how you can support this effort. You could provide a main dish, veggie or salad on a night of your choice. Dropping off the food item is fine. However, we need one person each night to be the Host Server. The Host Server would arrive at 5:30, make sure the tables are ready for our guests, set out the food items, eat with the families, put all leftovers away, and stay until the overnight person arrives at 8:00. Look for our sign-up table after church. If you can't help directly, cash donations for the purchase of breakfast and lunch items would be very helpful.

Family Promise recently provided their 2019 statistics. Forty-eight families (121 children) were helped to overcome homelessness. One of the 2019 families is an example of the types of challenges that contribute to homelessness. The mother of this family of 6 battled cancer, the father had a neurological disorder, their baby was born premature with a hole in his heart, and their 19-year-old daughter was diagnosed with a rare auto-immune disorder. (I share all of this with the family's permission.)

It is not difficult to understand how a family might become homeless with all the missed time from work that flows from these serious medical concerns. Their time with Family Promise gave them a safe haven while they focused on their medical need. Finally, after three years of being unsheltered, the family has a home! The mother shared, “Homelessness wears you down, showering in the middle of the night at an outside pool deck, barely able to survive. You believe that everyone is against you and you are convinced there is no hope and no support. With Family Promise, they really kept their promise. You do a complete 180 and you're like wow, we really have a home!”

The Mission and Service Ministry is thankful for your support of this important work to help homeless children and parents. Donations directly to support Family Promise can be made through our church offerings (memo: Family Promise).

One Great Hour of Sharing – March 22

Through the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering, we are planting seeds of new life. Together, we are investing in communities world-wide: providing education to girls and boys, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending, empowering families with skills to support themselves and their neighbors, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. These are just a few ways the OGHS offering touches God’s children, in addition to disaster relief and refugee initiatives. Your check to IUCC with memo “OGHS” will go toward these seeds of new life. Through your generosity, the world is a better place.

Thank you for promoting the value of love and giving hope to the future. - Mission & Service Ministry
Save the Date!

ANNUAL IUCC WOMEN’S RETREAT
MAY 1-3

“Mystic Masters”: Annual IUCC Women’s Retreat at Pilgrim Pines
Friday, May 1, through Sunday, May 3, 2020

Planning is underway for this year’s Women’s Retreat at Pilgrim Pines, with a theme of “Mystic Masters.” We will look at the lives of mystics such as Rumi, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Avila, Rabia of Persia, Meister Eckhart, Hafiz, and others, and find ways to apply their revelations and teachings to our daily lives.

Returning as retreat leader is the Rev. Jill A. Kirchner-Rose, senior minister at Redlands United Church of Christ, who led the retreat in 2018. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies from the University of California at Riverside, a Master of Divinity from Yale Divinity School, and a Doctorate of Ministry in Preaching from Chicago Theological Seminary.

Jill is married to Karen Rose. They have an 8 year old daughter, Daniella, and a cocker spaniel puppy, Ace.

Retreat attendees are encouraged to obtain the book, “Love Poems from God: Twelve Sacred Voices from East and West” by Daniel Ladinsky. However, obtaining the book is not required for attendance.

Watch for more details soon! Registration will begin in March.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Opportunity

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has a great opportunity for all the knitters and crocheters out there! We have a number of beautiful unfinished projects that need just a little tender loving care to be transformed into lovely prayer shawls. If you’d prefer to make your own project from scratch, we have a nice array of donated yarn that is begging to be used for this worthy cause too!

The prayer shawls are made with loving hands, blessed by the congregation, and then presented to those among us who are in need of their comfort. Many recipients have commented about how much these gifts have meant to them as they are grieving a loss, celebrating a milestone, or recovering from illness.

Please stop by the Prayer Shawl Ministry table after services in March to check out the unfinished projects and see if YOU have the skills, time, and love to complete one of them (or start your own). Thank you!

Would you like to help decide what the IUCC website should look like?

It’s time to think about updating the IUCC website (www.iucc.org). If you have ideas, suggestions or a wish list about what a modernized website should look like, please contact Cindy O’Dell at odellcindy19@gmail.com. A committee is forming now to work toward an updated design and improved functionality. No prior experience designing websites is needed. We’ll be discussing how the website is used, how it should be used and what both current congregants and future ones might need from it, as well as looking at possible options for what it can look like.
Coffee Hour hosts needed!

Coffee hour is about fellowship and giving back! Help spread the joy of fellowship by signing up! Get to know someone new! More than one person can sign up for any date. Part of an IUCC group? Promote yourselves by hosting as a group!

So “what do I do?” you may ask. YOU (and a co-host) supply the snacks, keep the table refilled, and visit with congregants! Approximate time commitment: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You can attend the 11 a.m. service.

Donated funds are available for reimbursement. Sign up online or at the Coffee Hour table on Sunday. Thanks!

News & Events

Yoga of 12-Step Recovery
Kelly Garrity’s early Sunday Yoga (7:30 a.m. in the Wisdom Room) will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Stretch your muscles and center your mind!

Women’s Fellowship
Wednesday, March 4, 6:30 p.m.
Women’s Fellowship will complete their two month discussion of the documentary “RBG” (Ruth Bader Ginsburg). We will have our usual salad and soup supper, then watch the second half the documentary, with breaks to allow for discussing the events covered in the film.

Isaiah House
Wednesday, March 11, 4 p.m.
Volunteers serve a meal to homeless women at Isaiah House on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Call (949) 436-1946 for more info.

The Seekers Women’s Group
Tuesday, March 17, 9:30 a.m.
The Seekers meet on the third Tuesday of each month for theological and spiritual study and discussion. Newcomers are always welcome!

Coffee Hour hosts needed!

Before you know it, Easter will be here! Help decorate our worship space to celebrate the joy of Easter - and welcome “Alleluia” back into our worship - by ordering an Easter Lily. They’re just $10 each, they can be dedicated to a loved one, and you can take them with you after the 11:00 service! Sign up on the Easter Lily table on the patio after services, starting in mid-March.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday
9:30 and 11 a.m.
April 5

Maundy Thursday
7 p.m. on April 9

Easter Sunday
9:30 and 11 a.m.
on April 12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3/20 Anne Aulenbach 3/24 Xin Li
3/10 Wayne Banwell 3/10 Lauren Louie
3/11 Daniel Blackburn 3/28 Trina Mangione
3/29 Steve Bullington 3/26 Barbara Moss
3/16 Erin Burke 3/16 Jan Osborne
3/27 David Carruthers 3/24 Tom Ruiz
3/10 Dylan Dobbert 3/01 Ruth Sandberg
3/16 Anders Evensen 3/26 Melissa Sokol
3/11 Suzie Feick 3/25 Jordan Willcox
3/01 Apoorva Ghosh 3/29 Nicholas Willcox
3/11 Panee Hsiang

It’s almost time to order Easter Lilies!

Before you know it, Easter will be here! Help decorate our worship space to celebrate the joy of Easter - and welcome “Alleluia” back into our worship - by ordering an Easter Lily. They’re just $10 each, they can be dedicated to a loved one, and you can take them with you after the 11:00 service! Sign up on the Easter Lily table on the patio after services, starting in mid-March.

It’s almost time to order Easter Lilies!
Homelessness has reached crisis levels both locally and nationally. Many factors, including misinformation and myths, contribute to this growing problem.

This Homelessness 101 presentation will provide information and answer some of the most frequently asked questions about this issue.

What is homelessness?
What causes people to become homeless?
What is the current state of homelessness in Orange County?
How can homelessness be solved?

By the end of this session, you will become familiar with many of the approaches, philosophies and terminologies associated with homelessness. More importantly, you will gain a much better understanding of the homeless system in our community, including the most up-to-date statistics and best practices for solving homelessness in Orange County for good.

Led by:

Becks Heyhoe
Director
United to End Homelessness
Orange County United Way

Atty McLellan
Community Engagement Manager
United to End Homelessness
Orange County United Way

If you have any questions please contact: Atty McLellan at AttyM@unitedwayOC.org

Empowered by

Sunday, March 29th
12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Register at:
[Link to registration]

Class held at:
Irvine United Congregational Church
4915 Alton Parkway
Irvine, CA 92604

United Way
Orange County United Way
We had a family meeting last Thursday to discuss contingency plans in case some or all of us got sick with the coronavirus. My daughters are very concerned, and now they have me concerned as well. Each of our respective households has stocked up on enough water, food, toilet paper, and necessities to last for at least two weeks in case of quarantine. I thought we’d done a pretty good job of preparing.

Still, this discussion was different, and it was intense in a way I hadn’t expected. My daughters asked for copies of our trust and medical powers of attorney, and they told me that we needed a “game plan” for what to do in the event that any family member (or combination of family members) fell ill, including our precious four-year-old grandson, Blake. I wanted to volunteer to swoop in and bring him home with me if his parents were too sick to take care of him, but the girls said no - he should go to his aunt and uncle’s house rather than ours because as older people, Jim and I were far more at risk of dying from the virus than our kids were. Sobering thought, right? Yikes!

I usually err on the side of optimism, thinking everything is going to be sunshine and roses. Still, I can be pretty pragmatic when reality bites and I have to pay attention. The coronavirus is all over the news, and it seems our government isn’t as prepared to handle things as we’d like it to be. We are entering uncharted territory where people with mild cases can be carriers without even realizing they’re ill. The virus has been estimated to kill two of every 100 people who get it, though the risk is lower for younger people and higher for the elderly. To view the CDC’s interim guidance based on what’s currently known about the virus, see www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/get-your-household-ready-for-COVID-19.html

It’s scary when we know something bad is coming and we don’t feel prepared. We take the recommended precautions, but still the worry lingers. We like to think we’re in control of things, but we aren’t really in control at all. I’m reminded of one of my favorite sayings: We plan, and God laughs.

From what I’m reading, this is the best advice out there:

- If you don’t feel well, stay home.
- Limit your travel.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Cough into a tissue or your elbow.
- Stock up on enough food and supplies to last at least two weeks.
- Stay away from large public gatherings.

I’ll add one more: After you’ve done all the prep you can, sit down and pray. Put all the worry and angst into God’s hands. Seriously. It’s always the very last thing I think of doing, when it should be one of the first. Every time I do it (and really mean it), the “hamster on a wheel” in my head stops running in circles and I can finally relax and feel at peace. Do it, and repeat as often as necessary. Daily is best.

During Lent, a time of contemplation and renewal, we are encouraged to ask for forgiveness, give up bad habits, and do good works. We are asked to be better human beings. Praying is a good start!

According to the four Gospels of the New Testament, one of the last things Jesus says in the garden of Gethsemane shortly before his arrest is, “Yet not my will, but thine be done.” It’s another way of saying the same thing: Put it in God’s hands. Jesus puts his fate in God’s hands, because it was always there anyway. No amount of worry or hand-wringing is going to change that.

There’s also another wonderful Bible verse along the same lines from Matthew 6: 25-27: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?”

So my best advice during this health scare and all other worries that consume us is this: Prepare - do all you can to get ready - then put it in God’s hands. Most importantly, LEAVE your worries there and mentally walk away. Have faith that God’s got this … because He does. Amen.
Powerful Parenting

Why do they need me?

by Dr. Lorraine Fox

This month we’ll ponder strategies for maintaining motivation for a particular task for children, teens, and adults at the highest “Readiness Level” – Level 4: Able and Willing. At first glance, the characteristics of people at this level might make it seem that there is really nothing to be “done” with them, but rather to just let them continue with their fine attitude and performance. It is because of this common misunderstanding that this level of motivation and behavior is included in a “Leadership” model. “Star” athletes still have coaches!

At Readiness Level 4, the young person is high in ability and high in motivation. They want to do what we are asking them to do, and they have the skills to do it. These children/teens require the least amount of time and effort from their parents, teachers, or other adult leaders, but it is a mistake to disengage entirely. While they need little from us, we want to maintain an encouraging relationship nonetheless, to be sure they feel acknowledged and appreciated. Children who are cooperating and doing what we are asking without complaint are open to compliments and encouragement to keep them functioning at this optimal level of performance. It is a mistake for adults to “abdicate” responsibility by responding to this style inappropriately, removing support and oversight.

When children/youth are able and willing, they only need instruction about what and when; they already know how. They need enough “task interaction” for clear directions only. A parent gives the child/young person the freedom to do what they can, also making sure that they are only asked to take responsibility that they can handle. For example, asking an older sibling to “watch your brother/sister for a minute” is not asking them to act as a parent or exercise a level of maturity they don't have. At the same time, children/teens who have a positive attitude and adequate skills for a particular task can be allowed to practice some decision making with regard to the particular task, understanding that there may be some risk involved and the parent/teacher may need to step in.

If a parent/teacher asks or expects a young person to “go in over their head,” they risk undermining self-confidence and the child might then revert to Level 1, where they become unwilling and unable. It is important to use your observation and evaluation skills to determine whether you are asking a young person to do what they are truly capable of doing, which will keep the cooperation level high, and strengthen their confidence in their own abilities. This is true for school work, leisure activities, and tasks around the house.

This month concludes our deliberations on a “situational leadership approach” to adult intervention with requests and requirements. The principles we've been outlining apply equally to academic tasks, athletic tasks, chores, and relationship tasks.

We've outlined four levels of “readiness” for doing a task, and four levels of support and leadership. While it is often true that there is a progression from Level 1, to Level 2, to Level 3 and then Level 4, it is also true that all of us, for a variety of reasons, slip and slide between the levels based on whether a task is new or familiar, whether we have an interest in the task, our ability to understand the task, and the degree of self-confidence and self-assurance we have in our ability to be successful. No one is Level 4 for everything! Parents and others helping children and young people will then interact around the task with varying degrees of focus on getting the task done, or focus on our relationship with the young person to boost their morale.

We’ll see if I want to give myself a “Spring Break” next month or if I get inspired to tackle another topic. I’m always open to suggestions.
Gentle night showers are my favorite southern California rains. I’ll often get up from the warmth of bed and shuffle in my fuzzy slippers to the patio door. I throw the door open, and watch as the flowers and foliage sip the steady, moist teardrops of heaven. Their thirst is quenched and they smile at me.

A fragrant scent rests on the air waves, and floats its way through the open patio door. Its origin is the large Magnolia tree, its leaves shiny wet. Some exposed roots rest on the soil revealing a root bunion, similar to the one on my right foot. The Magnolia’s citrusy-honey aroma graciously invades and permeates our abode.

The gentle rain is life-giving. The sky’s tears soak the earth, bringing it to life. However, if we have an unduly large amount of rain, a deluge, that can be life-taking, just as a drought is dangerous to life. Most foliage, flowers, and trees are diminished or even face expiration with a formidable drought or deluge.

Listening to the rain, my thoughts turn to people. Are we life-giving like a gentle rain, or life-taking like a drought or deluge? I find it life-taking to be around people who espouse greed, hate, exclusion, or lies. Those who are egocentric, grudge-bearers, or have oceans of self-pity, suck the very life out of me. I suppose most of us are guilty of some of the foregoing at times, but others embody such characteristics. Being in their presence is similar to living in a drought, deserted by moisture. Or in a deluge, drowning in negativity.

Bring on the life-givers! Do you notice how some people are like a gentle rain, even voicing concerns or complaints in a reasoned, calm manner. In their kindness they avoid attacking people. Gentle rain people, life-givers, leave me feeling glad to have been in their presence. It is as though I’ve been cradle in a citrusy-honey scent. I look forward to our next encounter knowing my energy will be enhanced rather than drained.

My friend Judy is one of my life-givers. I do not hesitate to reveal my soul to her. I don’t know if she agrees with my philosophical thoughts on faith or politics, or with my methods of parenting, grandparenting, wife-ing, or whatever. I do know that she is a careful listener, a taker-in of my heart’s desires and anguishes. It isn’t that I expect answers, not even words of wisdom, though I’ll gladly accept them; I want a friend who listens. Judy nods and hmm-mm-s to reveal her empathy. In discussing issues of controversy, her “I guess I look at it differently” explanations are not hard to take. And her laugh: it is full and deep and wide! It comes out of this soft, genteel person like the first surprising laugh of an infant.

I cherish Judy’s presence and our gentle rain communications even though it is scary to be transparent to another, to expose one’s true self. In my vulnerability I realize that to live fully we need life-giving moisture from both heaven and earth, moisture that connects and sustains all life. Heaven’s rains do their part. May you and I develop relationships that quench our soul’s thirst. Such a drink may overflow our heart’s cup and equip us to be life-givers.
Requiem
by Keith Dillon

We film lovers recently lost two of our biggest heroes. The list this month is about their careers and is dedicated to their memory.

Terry Jones – Terence Graham Parry Jones was born February 1, 1942, in Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire, Wales. He graduated from St. Edmund Hall at Oxford, where he met his friend, Michael Palin. The two of them helped form a comedy troupe there called The Oxford Revue. He met Eric Idle working in British Television in the mid 60s; by 1969, Jones, Palin and Idle, joined John Cleese, Graham Chapman and Terry Gilliam (the only American in the group) to create the groundbreaking sketch comedy Monty Python’s Flying Circus. Terry Jones directed many episodes for the show and, later, he directed most of the Monty Python films. Mr. Jones was also both a published poet and an historian specializing in Medieval European History. He passed on January 21, 2020 from complications due to frontotemporal dementia.

1) Mon Oncle (Jacques Tati-1958) Tati was a big hero of Jones’ and Mon Oncle was the most Python of all Tati’s films.
2) Monty Python and the Holy Grail (Terry Jones-1975) We are the Knights who say “Knee.”
3) Monty Python’s Life of Brian (Terry Jones-1979) The greatest Easter chuckle of the lot.
4) The Meaning of Life (Terry Jones, Terry Gilliam-1983) Remember Onan, every sperm is sacred.
5) Labyrinth (Jim Henson-1986) Jones wrote the screenplay for this masterpiece of early fantasy cinema.

Kirk Douglas – He was born Issur Danielovitch on December 9, 1916 in New York City to Belarusian immigrants. After graduating from St. Lawrence University in 1939, he studied acting at the American Academy of the Dramatic Art, where he met and occasionally dated Betty Joan Perske (better known as Lauren Bacall). After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War Two, he returned to New York with the intention of working on Broadway. However, Ms. Perske (see above) convinced him to come to Los Angeles and appear in films. His first was Hal Wallis’ The Strange Loves of Martha Ivers starring Barbara Stanwyck. His first Academy Award nomination came in 1949 for Stanley Kramer’s film Champion. He passed on February 5, 2020 at the age of 103. He was survived by four sons, Michael, Joel, Peter and Eric.

1) Ace in the Hole (Billy Wilder-1951) A 50s Noir about how the press both abuses and is abused.
3) Lust for Life (Vincente Minnelli-1956) John Wayne once asked, “Kirk, how could you play a sniveling weakling who commits suicide?” Douglas answered, “If I’m playing a weak character, I want to see where he’s strong.”
4) Paths of Glory (Stanley Kubrick-1957) This first collaboration between Mr. Douglas and Stanley Kubrick was a neo-realistic look at life in the trenches during World War One.
5) Spartacus (Stanley Kubrick-1960) Douglas hired Dalton Trumbo, one of the Hollywood Ten, to write this screenplay. This move was a firm thumb in the eye both to Hollywood and to theHUAC.
Scout Sunday at IUCC
February 9, 2020

IUCC celebrated Scout Sunday with the help of our own BSA Troop 602. The Scouts posted and honored the colors with the Scout salute. They led the congregation in the Girl Scout Promise and the Scout Oath.

Photos courtesy of Tricia Aynes
Why We Should Keep Scouting at IUCC

by Matt Mirmak, Eagle Scout (1986) and Chartered Organization Representative Pack 697 and Troop 602

As you may have read, the Boy Scouts of America made the decision to file Chapter 11 bankruptcy in response to the need to pay monies towards sexual abuse lawsuits that have been filed against them. A majority of these cases occurred over 30 years ago. Regardless of the time that elapsed, BSA National has done the right thing by taking responsibility and setting up a fund to rightfully pay these victims for the help that they need. I believe the stories of the abuse victims and hope they get the help and support that they need to heal from these horrific acts that were committed against them.

What does this bankruptcy mean for our Scout units that meet here at IUCC? Nothing. The Orange County Council and other councils nationwide are funded separately from BSA National and are not affected by the bankruptcy. Summer camp at Lost Valley will still happen this June for Troop 602. The District Camporee for Troop 602 is still on for March. Pinewood Derby races and the Blue and Gold banquet will happen for Pack 697. Troop 602 will still meet on Wednesday nights at 7p.m. Tsungoni Chapter of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting’s National Honor Society, will still meet at IUCC on the last Thursday of the month.

The news of the Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing was not surprising at all to those of us who are active in the BSA at the local level. Leaders, parents, and volunteers in our council were informed of this possibility last summer when news of the child sex abuse abuse lawsuits broke. In fact, we had a number of these meetings at IUCC and they were open to anyone who wanted more information on this issue surrounding the BSA.

IUCC member Paul Strasma was one of the council ambassadors that led these information sessions for our council. To their credit, the staff at BSA National have been upfront and transparent with our volunteers and parents about what was going to happen as well as their willingness to take 100% responsibility and make amends for the tragic events that happened under their watch.

So the question is, with this recent controversy surrounding the BSA, should IUCC still sponsor a Scout troop, a Cub Scout pack, and host a monthly Order of the Arrow chapter? Can we as a congregation be assured that our Scouts whose units are sponsored by IUCC will be safe from harm? Or should we just separate ourselves from Scouting altogether because we think that Scouting is not a safe environment for our youth? Six years ago, IUCC aligned with UCC churches nationwide to show its support for BSA’s adoption of an inclusive membership policy. Our congregation agreed to charter a new unit in Troop 602, and I volunteered to serve as the Charter Organization Representative on behalf of IUCC. In that role, I have worked with Troop 602 and Pack 697, which IUCC began to sponsor in 2019, to select leaders who best represent the values shared between IUCC and BSA.

I take great pride in knowing that my leaders always put the safety of our youth members first and foremost. The leaders of Troop 602 and Pack 697 are people of high moral character and integrity. I do not have to worry about them leading our Scouts because they have passed the council background checks and have earned their trust with me and with our local council. Their records as quality leaders speak for themselves.

The leaders that I have chosen to lead these units understand that they are to comply with the BSA’s Two Deep Leadership policy, which means no Scout is to be alone with one adult leader. This policy has been in place in Scouting for over 30 years. They are also required to take Youth Protection Training before they are even allowed to take on the role as a Scoutmaster. Not only do I require my leaders to take the training, I also require all of the parents of Troop 602 and Pack 697 to also take Youth Protection Training.

I admit that the BSA has not been perfect in its 110 years of existence. The idea that someone would use the Scouting program to harm and sexually abuse a child makes me ill. However, I do believe that Scouting will survive this controversy because Scouting is bigger than the paid staff in the National office in Texas and the people who committed these heinous acts against children. The heart and soul of Scouting are the thousands of volunteers who help plan camping trips and outings, work with Scouts on Scout skills and advancements, and make a safe and fun environment for our youth. These are the people who help our youth to become the leaders of tomorrow by teaching them about the values of the Scout Oath and Law and the values of being responsible stewards of our environment by teaching them the principles of Leave No Trace.

In the six years that Troop 602 has been around, our Scouts have performed hundreds of hours of service to IUCC. Whether it has been providing traffic control for our Easter Sunday services, restoring the Child Care garden, planting US flags at Bill Barber Park for the City of Irvine Memorial Day ceremony, or feeding the homeless at Isaiah House on Christmas Day, our Scouts have always been willing to lend a helping hand when needed without expectation of compensation or reward. They do these things selflessly because they strive to be the embodiment of the words of our founder, Lord Robert Baden-Powell, when he implored Scouts worldwide in his final address to “leave this world a better place than you found it.” I believe that the Scouts in our troop have done their best to live up to Lord Baden-Powell’s wishes and will continue to do so for years to come.

By: Matt Mirmak, Eagle Scout (1986) and Chartered Organization Representative Pack 697 and Troop 602

Boy Scout article continued on page 18
We live in a polarized and divisive world where civility, compassion for others and respect for the institutions that have made this country great seem to be lost. No matter if we are on the left, right, or center of our political views, some of us seem to be more apt to call people names on social media or, in some cases, commit acts of violence in order to show how “woke,” religious, patriotic, or tolerant we are from people who are different from us. And guess what? Our children aren’t only watching, they are emulating these behaviors from the examples we adults set for them.

Scouting is the only program I know of where people from diverse ethnic backgrounds, religious beliefs, and socio-economic statuses can get together, peacefully co-exist, and work together for the betterment of their communities, nation, and world. Our Scouts and leaders don’t need a bumper sticker that says “Co-Exist” to show how tolerant they are. They have the values and principles embodied in the Scout Oath and Law as their code of conduct and their guide to living. A return to these timeless values and behaviors for our youth and adults is needed in this country now more than ever. This is why I will continue to support Scouting and the Scouting groups that meet at IUCC. It’s still a worthwhile program to support. Our Scouts are worth the time and investment because they are the leaders of the future.

BSA Policy on Political Participation

The iconic image of a Scout in uniform is as American as apple pie and baseball. You would think a person running for political office would want to get the endorsement of one of the most patriotic youth organizations in the nation.

As appealing as this sounds, the endorsement of any political candidate or political cause, no matter how good or noble it sounds, goes against the 110 year old policy of the BSA as a non-partisan, apolitical organization. The BSA is not pro-liberal or pro-conservative. The BSA is pro-American and would encourage anyone of voting age to exercise their right to vote for the candidate of their choice.

In the six years that Troop 602 has been around, I have received requests from political candidates and local politicians asking if they could use the pictures of our Scouts in a campaign photo or ask the Scouts to endorse a political cause. I always tell them no and kindly remind these people of the BSA’s policy on Scouts and political participation. Every year when the troop re-charters, I sign a document, the Chartered Organization Agreement, stating that our church will not use this Scout troop to advance any political or social agenda, no matter how noble they sound.

Since we are in a presidential election year, here are some Frequently Asked Questions about the BSA’s policy on political participation. These questions were featured in the March 2012 issue of Scouting Magazine written by Bryan Wendell, an Eagle Scout and the creator of the blog Bryan on Scouting. Oh, and don’t forget to vote in the March primary and November general election!

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions and the BSA’s official answers:

Q: Could a pack, troop or crew provide a color guard flag ceremony for a candidate’s public speaking event or rally?
A: Yes. But BSA Policy requires our adult and youth members in uniform to leave immediately after the presentation of colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. Should they want to stay they must do so as individuals, not Scouting representatives. That means they would have to change out of their uniforms. (For the record, Troop 602 has opened up the Irvine City Council meeting with a color guard and led the Pledge of Allegiance.)

Q: So Scouts and Scouters can’t stand on the platform for the remainder of the speech or presentation?
A: No, they should not remain on the speakers’ platform or in a conspicuous location where media could construe their presence as an endorsement or symbol of support.

Q: Why is this the rule?
A: The policy is meant to prevent someone from using our brand to convey support of a candidate or ideology. This prevents Scouts from being used by any party in campaign advertisements or materials.

Q: So then why is it OK to even present the colors or lead the Pledge of Allegiance at all?
A: Those are displays of loyalty to the nation, something the BSA has always endorsed. Regardless of the outcome of the political race, the candidate and supporters pledge allegiance to the U.S. Because of this, it is always acceptable and deemed to be a part of the civic process. Also, this “service” is offered to any party, regardless of political affiliation.

Q: Can Scouts and Scouters pose for photos with political candidates at these events?
A: Yes. But photos of candidates or Scouts in uniform or BSA marks and logos are not allowed in political campaign materials of any kind.

Q: Can adult leaders or Venturers who are 18 or older vote in elections?
A: Not only can they — they should! This policy isn’t meant to limit the freedom of thought or action of any official or member acting as an individual. Scouters and Venturers shouldn’t wear their uniform to the polling place, but they should vote for whichever candidate they prefer. That’s all part of being a good citizen — something the BSA has taught for more than a century.

Q: What can Scout leaders do to support this policy?
A: Volunteers (and professionals) must be alert to situations that would imply that the BSA favors one candidate or party over another. Strict observance of our long-standing policy against the active participation of uniformed Scouts and leaders in political events is mandatory.

Q: Does Scouting still teach patriotism and citizenship?
A: Yes! The BSA teaches the ideals of patriotism and good citizenship as required to fulfill its purpose.
IUCC’s We Are Still In Declaration

At the February 9th IUCC Winter Congregational Meeting members approved a resolution to sign onto the We Are Still In Declaration. We are Still In is a coalition of cities, states, tribes, businesses, universities, healthcare organizations, investors, and faith groups. They strongly oppose the US withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement and are not going to retreat from the global response to the climate crisis. We Are Still In currently has over 3,850 leaders signed on representing approximately 158.7 million people across all 50 states. Approximately 900 faith organizations are represented to date.

IUCC Resolution

WHEREAS: Global warming is a principal cause of man-made climate change, and constitutes an existential threat to our world; and

WHEREAS: IUCC is a Creation Justice congregation of the United Church of Christ, committed to care for all of God’s creation; and

WHEREAS: In November 2019, the Trump administration began the process for formally withdrawing the United States from the Paris Climate Accord; and

WHEREAS: In response, a We Are Still In Declaration has been signed by a diverse coalition of more than 2000 businesses and investors; more than 250 cities and counties; more than 350 colleges and universities; and more than 250 faith groups, among others; and

WHEREAS: Consistent with IUCC’s commitment to Creation Justice, the declaration, shown below, supports continued work to hold warming to well below two degrees Centigrade,

WHEREAS: The IUCC Administration Board encouraged that the decision as to whether IUCC should sign onto this declaration be a matter for the congregation as a whole to decide;

Now Therefore Be It

RESOLVED: That Irvine United Congregational Church does hereby sign onto the We Are Still In Declaration, displayed below.

We Are Still In Declaration

We, the undersigned mayors, county executives, governors, tribal leaders, college and university leaders, businesses, faith groups, cultural institutions, healthcare organizations, and investors are joining forces for the first time to declare that we will continue to support climate action to meet the Paris Agreement.

In December 2015 in Paris, world leaders signed the first global commitment to fight climate change. The landmark agreement succeeded where past attempts failed because it allowed each country to set its own emission reduction targets and adopt its own strategies for reaching them. In addition, nations - inspired by the actions of local and regional governments, along with businesses - came to recognize that fighting climate change brings significant economic and public health benefits.

The Trump administration’s announcement undermines a key pillar in the fight against climate change and damages the world’s ability to avoid the most dangerous and costly effects of climate change. Importantly, it is also out of step with what is happening in the United States.

In the U.S., it is local, tribal, and state governments, along with businesses, that are primarily responsible for the dramatic decrease in greenhouse gas emissions in recent years. Actions by each group will multiply and accelerate in the years ahead, no matter what policies Washington may adopt.

In the absence of leadership from Washington, states, cities, counties, tribes, colleges and universities, healthcare organizations, businesses and investors, representing a sizeable percentage of the U.S. economy will pursue ambitious climate goals, working together to take forceful action and to ensure that the U.S. remains a global leader in reducing emissions.

It is imperative that the world know that in the U.S., the actors that will provide the leadership necessary to meet our Paris commitment are found in city halls, state capitals, colleges and universities, investors and businesses. Together, we will remain actively engaged with the international community as part of the global effort to hold warming to well below 2°C and to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy that will benefit our security, prosperity, and health.

To learn more about We Are Still In, please visit website: https://www.wearestillin.com/
Tijuana Immigration Process & Albergue las Memorias Pilgrimage

Join UCC/DOC members for a one day tour of immigration services in Tijuana, followed by a second day spent with our mission partner, Albergue las Memorias. Thurs-Saturday, April 2-4, 2020

Hotel Reservations for 2 nights should be made at the Hotel Principado Aeropuerto at Boulevard Cuauhtemoc Norte 405

Contact Randy Romine rwromine@aol.com or Rev. Nancy Bacon revnbacon@gmail.com for details and further information.
CELEBRATE
THE 35th ANNUAL
GREAT AMERICAN
WRITE-IN
Sponsored by
WOMEN FOR: ORANGE COUNTY
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
DELHI COMMUNITY CENTER
505 E. Central Ave., Santa Ana 92707

The Pen Is Mightier Than The Sword!

At the Write-In:

- MEET representatives of local and national advocacy groups!
- LEARN about today’s vital issues!
- RAISE YOUR VOICE by WRITING to the decision-makers who can make a difference in health, the environment, peace, human and civil rights, education!

www.facebook.com/events/199591674457782
For more information, please contact Felicity Figueroa 949-733-0850 or felicitynf@aol.com

FREE ADMISSION! FREE PARKING!

Participating Organizations

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, OC Chapter
Americans United for Separation of Church & State
Amnesty International, Irvine
Arab American Civic Council
Brady Orange County
Bread for the World
California Alliance for Retired Americans
California Clean Money Campaign
California Coalition to End Child Marriage
California Progressive Alliance
California Work and Family Coalition
California YIMBY
Childs-pace Foundation, Inc.
Church of the Foothills UCC & DOC - PB&J Ministry
Citizens’ Climate Lobby
Climate Reality Project-OC Chapter
CLUER-Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice
Community Action Fund of Planned Parenthood OSBC
Council on American-Islamic Relations, Greater LA (CAIR-LA)
Cousins Club of OC: Americans for Israeli/Palestinian Peace
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. OC Alumnae Chapter
East Africa Awareness
Ethiopian Historical Conservation Council
Friends of Sabeel in Orange County
Global Hope 365
Haitian Bridge Alliance
HB Huddle
Housing is a Human Right OC (HHROC)
Humanist Association of OC
IUCC Advocates for Peace and Justice
League of Women Voters of OC - An Inter-League Organization
Los Amigos of Orange County
LULAC-Orange County, District #1
Military Families Speak Out
Moms Demand Action
NAACP - OC
NAMI Orange County
National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. OC Chapter
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of Negro Women, Inc., Orange County Section
National Union of Healthcare Workers
National Women’s Political Caucus - OC
OC 9/11 Truth
OC Equality Coalition (OCEC)
OC Human Relations
OC Interfaith Committee to Aid Farmworkers
OC Justice Fund
OC May Day Collective
OC National Organization for Women (NOW)
OC Peace Coalition
Orange County Earth Stewards
Radiant Health Centers
Repurpose State Hospitals
Residents for Responsible Desalination (R4RD)
SoCal Palestine Coalition
St. Matthew Ecumenical Catholic Church
Stand Up for Kids
The LGBT Center OC
United Nations Association - USA, OC Chapter
Veterans for Peace - Orange County Chapter
WAVE (Women for American Values and Ethics)
Women’s Rights Action Group of Tapestry, a UU Congregation
Zonta Club of Newport Harbor

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