



Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis (UUCD) Theme Journal ♦ May- Embodiment

As we begin to explore "embodiment" this month, I am struck by how many opportunities for reflection have come by being with the children at UUCD. Children have yet to acquire the inhibitions that adults have, and they naturally embody their experience of the world. There is no separation between their exploration and their spirituality: they move, touch, and taste to find meaning and their place in the wider world. When children are happy or excited, they literally jump for joy. It's as though the positive feelings take control of their arms and legs as they skip to see a friend, bounce while narrating a story, or run to explore a new place. When children are uncertain or scared they retreat, hide behind a caregiver's legs, or sit—scrunched in silence.

What would it be like for adults to experience the world more fully through their senses? We become too easily stuck in our minds and following old scripts about behavior. There's nothing like connecting with Mother Earth by rolling in the grass, or finding new meaning in a song through dance.

Our children and youth have much to teach us, and many ways they can help us grow in our own spirituality and self-understanding. What a blessing it is to be in a community where we can learn together.

— Rev. Morgan McLean, Assistant Minister for Congregational Life

❖ www.uudavis.org → Events/Publications → 2016-17, May- Embodiment ❖

Proposed Covenant of Right Relations:

We affirm our commitment to creating and living within a spiritual community with actions based on respectful conversation, receptive listening, and openhearted presence.

In February, the congregation was asked to answer this question: "What behaviors, attributes, or virtues do you value in your UUCD congregational relationships?" In March, the collected answers were used to create a Word Cloud from which the top ten words were identified. Using these words as a starting point the Committee on Ministry (CoM) crafted a proposed covenant that was approved by the UUCD Board in April. On May 21st, after each service, there will be an opportunity for further congregational review and comment. At our Annual Membership Meeting in June it will be presented for an up or down vote.

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Sunday Worship, 9:30 & 11:15am

May 7, Flower Communion

Our annual Flower Communion ceremony celebrates the unique beauty of each person, and the beautiful ways we share our lives. This First Sunday, children and youth join for the first part of the service, then go to their programs: which includes a Maypole dance. We have invited the larger interfaith community to join us for this service as part of the Celebration of Abraham.

[Each Person Is Asked to Bring a Flower for Our Community Bouquet.](#)

Spirited Collection: World Wildlife Fund. Checks out to UUCD, memo: WWF.



May 14, Our Foremothers; Rev. Morgan McLean. Mother's Day was born out of peace groups in the United States. Many of our Unitarian and Universalist foremothers have been leaders in peace and justice movements. This service honors them, as well as the mothers in our own lives.

May 21, Coming of Age. Credo comes from the Latin "this I believe" or, as many Unitarian Universalists translate it, "what I set my heart to." Seven of our 8th and 9th graders have spent the year exploring their faith. Their experience culminates this Sunday when they share their credo statements with the congregation.

Special Collection – Empower Yolo Mission: promote safe, healthy, and resilient communities through 24 hour crisis intervention, emergency shelter, confidential counseling, training, legal assistance, and services for individuals and families affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, and child abuse; Resource centers for community services to improve the health, social, educational and economic outcomes of Yolo County residents; Community outreach and educational programs about available resources to promote health, stability, and self-sufficiency for individuals and families. empoweryolo.org
Make checks out to UUCD, memo Empower. Donate anytime: <http://tinyurl.com/DonateUUCD>

MAY 28-SEPT 3, SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE, 10AM ONLY

May 28, 10am ONLY, #UUWhiteSupremacyTeachIn; Elizabeth Assenza. This work and these words are difficult; we will join together in conversation. Our UU faith takes seriously the call to dismantle racism. Together, we engage the powerful and brave work of exploring racism and empowering our congregation in building Beloved Community. We join 590 UU congregations, from every state in our nation, responding to the call from leaders of Black Lives of UUism and Diverse Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries in exploring and resisting white supremacy in a spiritual manner.

Reflect The Committee on Ministry (Stefan Harvey, Hiram Jackson, Lisa Oakes, Kirk Ridgeway, Susan Steinbach) invites you to make the theme part of your spiritual practice:

Be About the Work By Andrea Hawkins-Kamper <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/closing/be-about-work>

*“May we see all as it is, and may it all be as we see it. / May we be the ones to make it as it should be,
For if not us, who? If not now, when? / This is answering the cry of justice with the work of peace,
This is redeeming the pain of history with the grace of wisdom,
This is the work we are called to do, and this is the call we answer now:
To be the barrier and the bridge, / To be the living embodiment of our Principles,
To be about the work of building the Beloved Community, / To be a people of intention and a people of conscience.”*

How do your actions reflect the embodiment of UU values?

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UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

COLLEGE of SOCIAL JUSTICE

UUCD's Arizona Mexico Border Trip



November 7-12, 2017

DEEPEN YOUR CAPACITY TO PRACTICE EFFECTIVE SOLIDARITY

EXPERIENCE THE IMMIGRATION CRISIS FIRSTHAND

The Social Justice Coordinating Committee is pleased to announce the details of UUCD's Arizona Mexico Border Trip with the UU College of Social Justice and BorderLinks.

When: November 7 – 12, 2017.

Where: Tucson, surrounding communities and likely Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

Why: To deepen UUCD's understanding of immigration issues and to enhance our work on these and other justice issues.

Who: 10 to 20 individuals with a commitment to activism; a willingness to participate in a study group before, during and after the trip; and an enthusiasm to share the experience with the UUCD community upon return.

The trip fee is \$950.00 (financial aid is available for up to 50% of program costs, based on need, and is awarded on a first come, first service basis). Airfare to Phoenix or Tucson (and possible ground transportation cost(s)) are additional.

The UU College of Social Justice requires an application from each participant: <https://www.tfaforms.com/442078>
After submitting your application, you'll be asked for a deposit (about 25% of the fee). UUCD's trip will be confirmed as soon as ten people have submitted the application and deposit.

The Social Justice Coordinating Committee has scheduled related events for May 9 and May 16. Everyone is invited to these events; we urge those exploring the possibility of joining the border trip to attend. On May 9, hear more about the border trip and view the film, *Harvest of Empire*. On May 16, join the SJCC for discussion of Reyna Grande's book, *The Distance Between Us*. You can also contact Robin Datel (rddd@dcn.org) and Stefan Harvey (stefh2002@yahoo.com) with questions about the trip. UUCD's Social Justice Coordinating Committee is exploring similar opportunities for families, youth, and young adults during the summer and/or school breaks.

UU College of Social Justice was created in 2012 as collaboration between the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Its mission is to inspire and sustain effective and spiritually grounded activism for justice. (www.UUCSJ.org)

BorderLinks is a binational, nonprofit educational organization at the U.S.-Mexico border founded in the 1980s. It is UUCSJ's main partner for the Arizona-Mexico immersion journey program. (www.borderlinks.org)