
DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Volume #21 | Issue #12 | Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Table of Contents

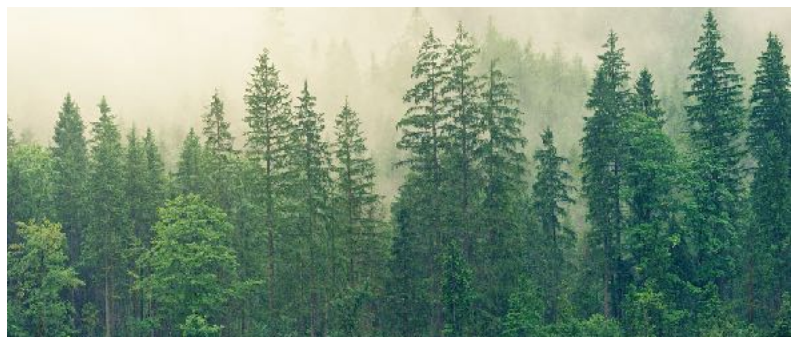
- 2. [Worship Schedule](#)
 - 3. [Calendar of Events](#)
 - 4. [Minister's Message](#)
 - 5. [President's Column](#)
 - 6. [News for Newcomers](#)
 - 7. [Family Ministries](#)
 - 8-9. [Music Ministries](#)
 - 10. [Coordinating Team](#)
[Report and Board Report](#)
 - 11. [Nominating Committee](#)
 - 12. [Women's Book](#)
[Discussion Club and](#)
[Transformation Team](#)
 - 13. [The Offering Circle](#)
 - 14. [Green Sanctuary Team](#)
 - 15-16. [December Fun and](#)
[Worship](#)
-



- Come Together -

“Love is a choice—not simply, or necessarily, a rational choice, but rather a willingness to be present to others without pretense or guile..” - Carter Heyward, American feminist theologian

December is typically a month of celebration, love, and gratitude; but many are feeling the angst of current events and being away from loved ones, so it can be difficult to feel positive. Change is difficult. Thankfully, we have each other for friendship, support, and hope. We are stronger together. And you are so loved.





SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Service at 10 AM

Zoom Meeting ID: 832 129 662

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/832129662>

After-worship COFFEE HOUR

<https://zoom.us/j/118751781?pwd=S0EyQmZLdjJuNnBIV1ZlWW0yZVFhZz09>

December 6 - Rev. Sharon Wylie

"Blue Christmas"

We can expect to feel a full range of emotions this December: joy, sadness, anger, fear, disgust, and more. Let's plan for a difficult holiday season. This is the second Sunday of Advent.

December 13 - Rev. Sharon Wylie

"Getting Over White Fragility, Healing Trauma pt. 4"

This is the fourth in a 10-part series on healing racialized trauma inspired by the book "My Grandmother's Hands" by trauma specialist Resmaa Menakem. This is the third Sunday of Advent. The fourth night of Hanukkah begins at sundown.

December 20 - Rev. Sharon Wylie

"Gathered at the River"

This is the fourth Sunday of Advent. As Christmas approaches, we reflect on the meaning of our Advent hymn, "Shall We Gather at the River."

December 24 - Rev. Sharon Wylie

Youtube Video Share

A video from Rev. Sharon and the Chalice Chancel Choir will become available on our YouTube channel at 5 p.m. (a link will be sent by email). There is no Chalice worship service this evening. Chalice congregants are warmly welcome to Christmas Eve service at any other of our UU congregations in San Diego County (or around the country!).

December 27 - Rev. Sharon Wylie

"Letting Go"

We celebrate the coming new year by considering what burdens we might want to release in order to continue our life's journey less encumbered. Our online ritual will invite you to let go of something weighing you down, and also to affirm what you want more of in your life.

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Until further notice, Chalice activities and events will be held virtually

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 6P Yoga by Zoom 7P Executive Board Meeting	9A Cracker Barrel group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 2P Coordinating Team mtg 6:30P Women's Support Group 7P Family Ministries Team mtg	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study Group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	9A Parent Support Group 10:30A Focus Group 7P Concert with Tom Carlstrom
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9A RE Classes for grades K - 5 10A "Blue Christmas" Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour 12P Focus Group	12P Focus Group	10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 12P Focus Group 6P Yoga by Zoom 7P Board of Trustees mtg	9A Cracker Barrel group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 5P "The Offering Circle" participatory worship 6:30P Focus Group 6:30P Women's Support Group 6:30P Men's Support Group	10A Memoir Writing group 10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS 7P Identifying Microaggressions	6:10P Haven House
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9A RE Classes for grades K - 5 10A "Getting Over White Fragility, Healing Trauma pt. 4" Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour	1P Poetry Group	10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 6P Yoga by Zoom 7P Women's Book Club	9A Cracker Barrel group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 2P Coordinating Team mtg 6:30P Women's Support Group	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 7P Chancel Choir Meeting and Rehearsal	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	10A Worship Team mtg 5P Winter Solstice Party
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
*NO RE CLASSES 10A "Gathered at the River" Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour		10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 2P Staff mtg 6P Yoga by Zoom	9A Cracker Barrel group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 5P "The Offering Circle" participatory worship 6P Green Sanctuary Team mtg 6:30P Women's Support Group 7P Prayer Circle	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 12P Youtube Video Share	4:30P RE Classes MS/HS	
27	28	29	30	31		
9A RE Classes for grades K - 5 10A "Letting Go" Worship Service 11:10A Coffee Hour	6:30P Readers' Theater group	10A Chair Yoga 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 2P Staff mtg 6P Yoga by Zoom	9A Cracker Barrel group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch 6:30P Women's Support Group	10:30A Women's Meditation & Study group 12P Zoom Lunch Bunch		



Reverend Sharon

To schedule an appointment with Rev. Sharon:

- Online: <https://calendly.com/revsharonwylie/>
- Text or call: 619-871-9959
- Email: SWylie@ChaliceUUCongregation.org

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The following is an excerpt from the November 8, 2020 worship service "What Just Happened?" You can listen to the complete sermon, and the rest of the service, on Chalice's YouTube channel.

Here is how I understand what just happened this election week.

The presidential election was about choosing whether to uphold or to dismantle white supremacist heteropatriarchy.

I haven't used that term before: white supremacist heteropatriarchy. We HAVE to start understanding this ONE system. Sexism and racism are not separate from each other. Patriarchy is not separate from white supremacy. All these things go together, and all other forms of oppression in our culture are part of this same system.

White supremacist heteropatriarchy is the system with which the United States has existed for our history. This is the system that the United States was founded upon and built on.

Whether you realize it or not, you are well familiar with this system. It is all around us. It is everything we are familiar with. It's the system that we are successful in or not successful in.

If you are thriving, then you know how to succeed in this system. Many of us do. We know the rules, and we know what rules we must follow and which we can break, and sometimes we're not happy with this system, but we get how it works.

If you are not thriving, then you know all the failures and shortcomings of this system. Many of us know this too.

Men know what patriarchal men are supposed to be like and act like. We now call this toxic masculinity, HARMFUL masculinity. It harms the men who practice it, and it harms the people around them.

Women know what women are supposed to be like and act like. We have fought for liberation, and so there is a wider array of feminine expression available to us than there was 70 years ago, but the pressures to conform still exist, and we know what's an acceptable amount of variation, and what's truly transgressive, right? My version of

femininity is still acceptable, and it's still recognizable as femininity. My appearance is not transgressive. My demeanor and words sometimes might be.

LGBTQ people know that their existence threatens the system, the system of white supremacist heteropatriarchy. Patriarchy is threatened by LGBTQ existence because that system doesn't work if people don't play their assigned roles. You're supposed to WANT to play your assigned role, and it's threatening when you don't.

And then white supremacy is embedded in all of it, integral to all of it. We must stop talking about these oppressions as if they are separate. For example, the vision of acceptable femininity is inherently white femininity.

For many of us, it is still new learning to see and understand how white supremacy is embedded in everything we do in the United States. It is part of how the system works that parts of it have been kept invisible even to those who benefit from the system. We must continue our learning about white supremacy.

...

Our mission, as people of this living faith tradition, is to work relentlessly for the liberation of all people. What we want is for everyone to have choices. There is not one way of being a man, or a woman, or a Black man, or a White woman, or any expression of identity. Liberation is not demanding that women STOP embracing traditional expressions of femininity; liberation is women knowing that they have CHOICES of gender expression. Liberation is men knowing they can CHOOSE to wear a skirt and heels or choose not to. Liberation is a hundred different ways to be free, and we want it for everyone, not just lucky us who found freedom and a good religious community.

The worst thing we could do is take Biden's election as a sign that all is well. Biden's election IS a sign that 80 million voted for change. Now it's our work to bring that change to fruition.

Bright blessings,
Sharon



Dean Goddette

Board President

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Carless Living

I don't mean wandering around without a mask. Carless. Car-less, sans automobile.

A few months ago, the lease on my car was up. It had been sitting in my driveway collecting cobwebs (literally) for a few months before that. So, I let it go, returned it, and went about my carless life. It saves the environment, and it saves me money.

First, I will say that this is admittedly not for everyone. With my current lifestyle, it works well. I'm single, no kids, and I work 100% from home. But here's some of the good and bad; I just wanted to share my story given the Green Team service a few weeks ago.

From a cash flow perspective, this is saving me a ton of money. According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), the average annual cost of owning and operating a car in 2015 was \$8,698. My car cost me about \$635 per month (or \$8,580, pretty much spot on average).

- Lease payment \$320/month

- Insurance \$115/month

- Gasoline \$200/month (pre-pandemic)

- Maintenance ~\$80/month (amortized based on my yearly expenses, tires, oil

After two months or so, here's what I've learned so far.

Overall, this is working well for me

- Instacart for groceries

- Occasional fancy dinners via GrubHub

- Lyft and Uber when needed

- Bike for local trips

- Rent a car for long trips



My friends (with cars) have been helpful during the transition. Mooching the occasional ride or picking something up at the grocery store for me is no big deal. I can chip in for gas or other methods of compensation, like a round at the local pub!

What doesn't work?

- Planning, planning, planning. No dashing to the grocery store because I need an Oreo fix or a tomato for that dinner I was planning.

- I needed to buy a bike for local transportation. This is a plus actually. Could have bought an eBike or Vespa. But we'll see if my legs hold out.

- I can't provide transport in an emergency.

There's no doubt that the pandemic and my lifestyle made this a lot easier.

And finally, it's not final. If I feel the need, I can buy a car. Or a Vespa.



News for Newcomers

Welcome to Chalice! We are glad you are here. All are welcome at Chalice, especially in this time of separation and uncertainty. We strive to be a beacon of liberal religion in North Inland San Diego County.

Even during this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are vibrant & thriving in many ways.

Although we cannot meet in person, we have numerous activities, starting, of course, with our Sunday Services at 10 AM on Zoom (<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/832129662>).

But there is MUCH more than that. We believe the best way to become more knowledgeable about our congregation and our community is to get involved in one or more of our activities. Here are some that might be of interest you:

Check out:

[Chalice's Youtube Channel](#)

Coffee Hour – Join our Coffee Hour immediately following Sunday Service at approx. 11 AM. There you will meet some of our congregants who will warmly welcome you. The initial gathering will be put randomly into “breakout rooms”, usually with five to seven people. There you can chat or just observe the banter of people in our community. This is a wonderful way to get acquainted with others. (Zoom Meeting ID: 118 751 781, Password: 570250).

Zoom Lunch Bunch with Rev. Sharon – meets Tuesdays through Thursdays, Noon to 1 PM. Here you can join Rev. Sharon and normally 5 – 8 other congregants for a wide ranging discussion that's different every time. Also an excellent opportunity to ask Sharon any questions you might have about Chalice. Zoom link (<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/358579869>).

Chair Yoga and Standard Yoga – Chair yoga meets Tuesdays at 10 AM for one hour. Yoga instructor Patty C. takes participants through seated & standing poses. Request Zoom information from Patty C. at PattyCar@San.RR.com. Standard Yoga via Zoom meets Tuesdays 6 – 7 PM.

Zoom links and information for all of Chalice's activities and events are available in our weekly email, the E-nuus. You will be invited to join our email list once you have attended a Sunday worship service.

Many other activities can be found on the Chalice website, www.chaliceuucongregation.org.

On behalf of the Chalice Greeters Team,
Richard K.



Chris O'Connor

**Director of Family
Ministries**

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Every month Chalice families receive a **Soulful Home** packet. And this isn't your average PDF, either. Each Soulful Home edition has a set of resources for UU families to engage in meaningful, faith-centered explorations in their own home.

This month, the focus is on finding stillness in our everyday lives. The December Soulful Home packet will include ideas for discussion when the family is all together, a treasure hunt for stillness, a mantra ("Don't Just Do Something, Sit There!"), a beautiful Mary Oliver poem and bedtime stories. They also include playful activities that support the monthly topic, such as dancing and making an Advent calendar.

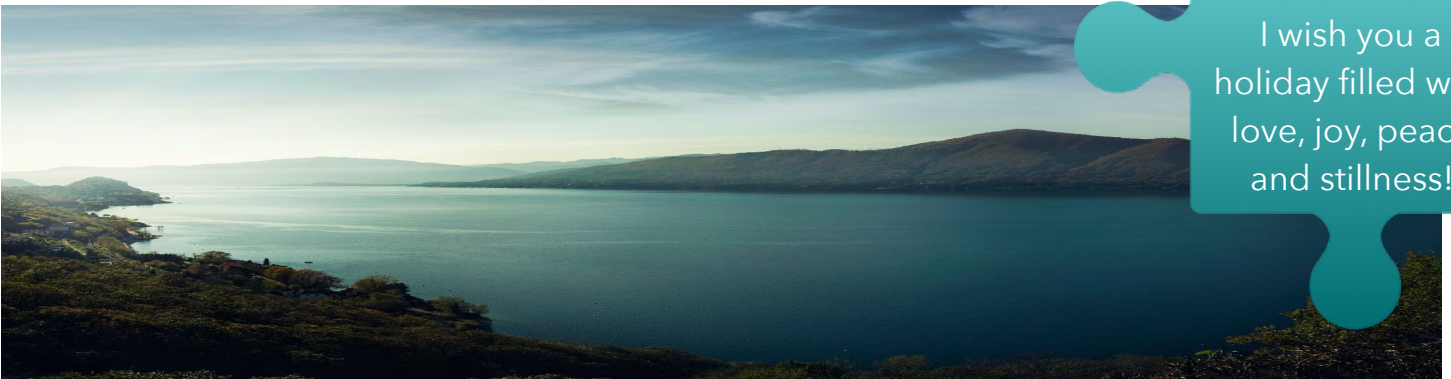
Our holidays might include fewer people this year, but with the present circumstances, we can take advantage of this opportunity to practice stillness, to notice and be affected by less, and to re-energize ourselves for what is ahead.

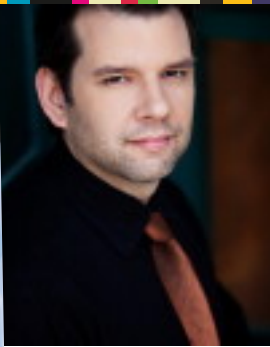
If you don't have children at home, but you would still like to look through the December Soulful Home packet, please let me know and I will send it to you. These explorations into stillness are beneficial and positive for each and every one of us, no matter what chapter of life we are in.



**NO RE K-5 Family
Morning class on
December 20, 2020**

I wish you a
holiday filled with
love, joy, peace
and stillness!





Tim
McKnight

**Director of Music
Ministries**

MUSIC MINISTRIES



While we cannot celebrate the December Holidays in person this year, the Chancel Choir is busy preparing some special holiday music for our online worship services along with a few other surprises. In the meantime, enjoy these memories from our 2019 Christmas Eve service – know that we will make many more memories together as soon as we can!





Tom Carlstrom's "Concert At Home" on Saturday, December 5 @ 7 p.m.

Join Tom Carlstrom via Zoom on the **first Saturday of each month at 7pm** for 40 minutes of song followed by visiting with fellow concert attendees. Every month is something new! Watch the weekly ENUUS prior to the first Saturday of the month for Zoom connection details. Donations to Chalice are gratefully accepted.



Hymnals for Worship Services

Several congregants have expressed interest in using hymnals during our online Sunday morning worship services. If you would like to borrow hymnals from Chalice, please send an email to

Music@ChaliceUUCongregation.org

with your name, email, and phone number, and you will be contacted to arrange for pickup or delivery.

If you prefer to purchase hymnals, they may be purchased from the UUA bookstore,

www.uuabookstore.org, or from

Amazon, [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



Looking Ahead:

Choir Rehearsal via Zoom	Dec 3rd & 17th @ 7 p.m.
Concert At Home With Tom Carlstrom (Zoom!)	First Saturday of the Month @ 7 p.m.
An Evening Of Song With Tom Carlstrom - full concert experience	TBA
Tim and Friends Concert	TBA
Keyboard Kaleidoscope #6 Concert	TBA



COORDINATING TEAM REPORT

Goal: Strengthen the ways in which congregants offer care and support to each other.

- Party planning has begun for the Winter Solstice Party (originally the Holiday Party). It was changed to Winter Solstice instead of Holiday because last year's Winter Solstice event was very popular and the party date chosen was so close to the Solstice.
- Leaderboard website is up and running. Policies, important documents, tips, and a variety of resources are available to all congregational leaders. This allows for more effective leadership.
- Focus Groups are underway and there has been significant participation and the Board decided to create additional groups to accommodate the higher than expected interest.

Goal: Increase financial support for Chalice's operating budget, including pledging, congregation-wide fun(d)raising activities, and funding from outside the congregation.

- Met with auction team regarding plans for the February 2021 auction.
- Arranged with SDGE to modify our service plan to achieve lower costs.

Oversight of Chalice programs and committees:

- Prepared December goodies available for pick-up at Chalice for the Winter Solstice Party.
- Reinstated the Newsletter Editorial Team and added a Newcomer's Section.
- Created a Single-Subject Email form for congregational announcements.

BOARD REPORT

The Chalice Board of Trustees met for the regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 10 at 7 PM on Zoom. President Dean Goddette shared a video outlining the annual cycle of Board/Staff collaboration in gathering information from the congregation using the Open Question process. The Board discussed the importance of the evaluation of the information gained, in planning for future Board and Congregational goals. It was reported that the Nominating Committee had met and would be contacting possible Chalice members to fill the currently vacant Board Vice-President position, as well as candidates for the 2021-2022 year. Board members were reminded that they would be attending a training session on Sat., November 14, in preparation for leading the upcoming Focus Groups in early December. Dean reminded Board members to sign up to read and present sections of the UUA report on "Widening the Circle of Concern". Dean asked for volunteers to investigate the possibility of acquiring one or both of the properties adjacent to Chalice, which are currently for sale.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board Wants YOU and Your Leadership Skills!

It has been an unforgettable year, unlike any other we have lived, and through it all, your Chalice community has been there for you. Rev. Sharon, our fantastic staff, and the Coordinating Team have done an exceptional job keeping us together through the pandemic and uncertain political times.

And behind the scenes, the Board of Trustees continues its critical work of envisioning Chalice's future. Many of Chalice's long-time Members have previously dedicated their time and talents toward serving on the Board, and now is the time for fresh ideas. Maybe it's time you contribute your talent and unique life skills to moving us toward an even stronger future!

Open positions include:

- * Vice-President
- * Treasurer
- * Two Trustee positions

Chalice's Nominating Committee (Kathy Z., Marshall F., and Richard K.) is seeking nominations for open positions on the Board of Trustees for the 2021-2022 congregational year beginning July 1, 2021. Open positions will include Vice-President, Treasurer, and 2 Trustee positions.



Recommended qualifications vary depending on the position, and are available in the Chalice Wiki, in the Policy Book at Chapter 5, page 31, available at this [link](#). (You don't have access to the Chalice Wiki? Our Congregational Administrator, Marie K., can set you up; email her at Office@ChaliceUUCongregation.org.)

If you wish to serve Chalice as a member of the Board, or to suggest another congregational Member, or with any questions about serving, please contact Kathy Z. at Kathy@o2a.com or (858) 231-7095.

Nominations must close by **Wednesday, March 10, 2021**; but of course, the sooner we can put together a solid slate of candidates, the better!



Women's Book Discussion Club

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owen is part bildungsroman and part crime drama centered around Kya, a wild and unkempt girl. Although she lives a lonely life her story is also a hopeful one.

Please join the Chalice Women's Book Discussion Club. They meet **every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.** for check in and then a lively discussion of the book via Zoom.

For more information email Mary B. at MaryBest50@gmail.com.



Transformation Team

How to Recognize and Eliminate Microaggressions

"How do people of color cope with the daily onslaught of racial microaggressions? Microaggressions are the brief and everyday slights, insults, indignities, and denigrating messages sent to people of color, intentionally or unintentionally. Studies have revealed that racial microaggressions have powerful detrimental consequences. How do we help perpetrators (including ourselves) eliminate microaggressions?

The first step is to make them visible," states Dr. Derald Wing Sue.

Please join the Transformation Team for a discussion of How to Recognize and Eliminate Microaggressions, on **Friday evening, December 11th, at 7 PM.**

Please email Debi S. at Dcsi54@gmail.com to receive a Zoom invitation.

The Offering Circle

You're invited to :

The Offering Circle
Participatory Worship

Wednesday, December 9 at 5 pm

Theme: Hope

Wednesday, December 23 at 5 pm

Theme: Stillness



Please consider bringing something to share on the theme: a poem, a song, an artwork, a personal reflection. You will be able to screen share.

This is a collaborative and participatory worship experience. We meet on Zoom, please feel empowered to join us with video on. We don't care about pajamas, and we want to see everyone's awesome faces! Please bring a chalice or candle along with your open hearts and minds.

We gather on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 5 p.m.** Look for the Zoom info in the weekly e-Nuus, or contact Drae M. at Deselluin@gmail.com.



Donate your gently-used eyeglasses!

We are collecting eyeglasses for ReSpectacle, a non-profit that distributes used eyeglasses to underserved individuals and communities worldwide for free. A collection box will be available on the Chalice campus from December 1 through December 15. It would help to avoid scratches if you can put your old glasses in a case, but it is not necessary. Contact Bonnie P.

(BP888@willowgrace.net) with questions or check the website ReSpectacle.org for their FAQs.

Green Sanctuary Team



THIS

NOT



THIS

Tough decisions.

What's cozier on a winter morning than a microfleece jacket? The outdoor clothing manufacturer Patagonia is studying the effects of microfibers (containing plastic) on the environment, especially ocean life.

The picture is grim.

But they are still **STUDYING**.

We don't need any more study. We can act.

Humans
consume roughly 5
grams of plastic a week -
that's a credit card.

REDUCE - Reuse - Recycle
(In that order)

Choose any one or more of the following scenarios:

- Stop washing microfleece.
 - Or, at least, purchase bags to make washing them safer:
 - [Welcome to the Environmental Enhancements.](#)
 - And/or purchase a lint catcher: <https://rozaliaproject.org/stop-microfiber-pollution/>.
- In the extreme, are you willing to retire microfleece items, using them for pillow filling or quilt batting or...? Anything to keep them from being laundered without protection.
- At minimum, can you pledge to no longer purchase micro fleece?

Working together, Chalice members and friends can make a difference. And this is one thing you can tackle today.

DECEMBER FUN AND WORSHIP

December 1 - 19

PICK UP YOUR DECEMBER GIFTS ON THE CHALICE COURTYARD

Stop by anytime to pick up:

- Candles and drip protectors for Christmas Eve (one per person in your household) (we'll leave these out through December 25).
- Cocoa or cider packet (one per person in your household) for the Winter Solstice Party.
- Winter Solstice Party supplies for children.



PREPARE YOUR GIFTS TO OFFER EACH OTHER

- Please take a selfie "holiday photo" of yourself THIS YEAR (not one from the past). Email to Rev. Sharon before December 18 at SWylie@chaliceuucongregation.org. Photos will be shown as part of the Winter Solstice Party.
- Take a video of yourself throwing the year 2020 (or any part of it you want, represented however you like) into the garbage. Email to Rev. Sharon before December 26. Videos will be shown as part of the December 27 "Letting Go" worship service.

December 19

Winter Solstice Party at 5 p.m.

Something for Everyone! We will use Zoom breakout rooms (remember, you can move from room to room) to offer lots of holiday merriment. Tom Carlstrom will lead us in Christmas carols, there will be a socializing room for conversation, a winter solstice story and song room, and multiple rooms with activities for children (and the young at heart). Pick up your hot cocoa and cider at Chalice beforehand!


Zoom meeting ID: 955 9264 6094

December 24

Christmas Eve (available on demand, 5 p.m. and later)

A video from Rev. Sharon and the Chalice Chancel Choir will become available on our YouTube channel at 5 p.m. (a link will be sent by email). There is no Chalice worship service this evening. Chalice congregants are warmly welcome to Christmas Eve service at any other of our UU congregations in San Diego County (or around the country!).

CHALICE 2021



ONLINE AUCTION

February 7th through February 14th - Online

For those new to our congregation, the annual auction provides financial support for Chalice.

This years event will be a new way to enjoy an established tradition. Watch for announcements explaining how to donate, ideas of what to donate, and how to join the auction and bid.

Chalice Web Site: <https://chaliceuucongregation.org/>

Address: 2324 Miller Ave Escondido, CA 92029

Phone: 760-737-0393

PrevUUs is published monthly by the Chalice Unitarian Universalist Congregation. The complete newsletter is distributed via email to members, and posted on the Members Only section of the website. An edited version (without congregant contact information) is posted on the public section of the website. Paper copies are available at Chalice. Deadline is the 24th of the month.

Submit articles to: ChaliceUUCNewsletter@gmail.com

With much gratitude to our Editorial Team: Peggy K., Callie L., and Andi S.