



Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno

October 2025

Sunday, October 5th - “How Can You Say I’m Good When I’ve Done Such Terrible Things?” *Annual Pastoral Care Sunday*

Sunday, October 12th - "We Are the Future; Spirit of America"

Sunday, October 19th - “Beyond Bathrooms and the Binary” *Annual Social Justice Sunday and Fall Congregational Meeting*

Sunday, October 26th -“My Unsung Hero” All Ages Service *Annual Serve Gratefully Sunday*

Workshops (One Time Only)

[Click here for Zoom Links](#)

At the Drive-in

Sunday, October 5th at 6:00 PM

(note: this is the first Sunday of the month)

This award-winning documentary takes us to one of the last remaining drive-in theaters in the country. From sleeping in the concession stand to working entirely for free, the quirky film fanatics at the struggling drive-in face uncertainty when Hollywood announces it will switch to digital projection for all new movies. Unable to purchase an expensive digital projector, the gang pins their hopes of survival on showing only vintage 35mm film prints on their original 1949 projectors. This is a documentary about the magic of movies and the people who love them. [Registration is requested.](#)

Our Possible Green Future

Tuesday, October 7th

6:30 PM (On Zoom)

Facilitated by Maia Ballis

Join Maia Ballis and Johnathan Heywood from the nonprofit, People, Food & Land, for a discussion on the future of green solutions they are researching and/or promoting. We will explore the benefits of green technologies and products, focusing on their efficiency, durability, and cost-effectiveness. Additionally, we will examine how regenerative

bio-economies can positively impact the environment and mitigate climate change.

[Registration is requested.](#)

Exploring Your Spiritual Journey (For Newcomers)

Sunday, October 26th

from 12:15 PM to 2:15 PM

Multiplatform (Live on Alluvial Ave. or On Zoom)

Facilitated by & Cecily Callahan

Join Rev. Tim and Cecily for an engaging exploration of our personal spiritual journey. Unitarian Universalists believe that each human life is sacred and that our spiritual beliefs evolve over time. We are shaped by experiences and insights that cause us to grow, deepen, and change over our lifetime. This session is perfect for those who are new to Unitarian Universalism. [Registration is requested.](#)

Workshops (Multiple Sessions)

[Click here for Zoom Links](#)

A History of Hell in America

2 Sessions: Tuesday, October 14th and 21st

10:00 AM (Live on Alluvial Ave.) and 6:30 PM (OnZoom)

Facilitated by Rev. Tim Kutzmark

Join Rev. Tim in this two-part class as we explore one of the most pervasive and powerful forces in American culture: the conviction that people who died outside the Christian faith would endure everlasting damnation in hell. We'll explore four specific periods in American history to see how the concept of hell was used to maintain power over those deemed "other." We'll also see how progressive Unitarian and Universalists countered such actions by teaching mercy, compassion and love. There is a recommended pre-class reading (or request an audio version). [Registration is requested.](#)

Be A Revolution: How Everyday People Are Fighting Oppression and Changing the World – And How You Can, Too

by Ijeoma Oluo

A Continuing Discussion on Becoming a More Intercultural Beloved Community

4 Sessions: Sundays,

September 21st & 28th, October 12th & 26th

12:30 PM -2:00 PM, Multiplatform (Live on Alluvial Ave. or On Zoom)

Facilitated by Reva Guimont and Ellis Vance

From the inside cover information:

In her previous books, Ijeoma Oluo discussed the issues of race and racism in society, how they persist, and how to talk about them. But now that we better understand these systems of oppression, the question is this: What can we do about them?

With *Be A Revolution*, Oluo aims to show how people across America are working to create real positive change in our structures. Looking at many of our most powerful systems, such as education, media, labor, health, housing, policing, and more, she highlights what people are doing to create change for intersectional racial equality. She also illustrates various ways in which the reader can find entryways into change in these same areas, or can bring some of this important work being done elsewhere to where they live.

This book aims not only to be educational, but to inspire action and change. Oluo wishes to take our conversations on race and racism out of a place of pure pain and trauma and into a place of loving action. *Be A Revolution* is both an urgent chronicle of this important moment in history as well as an inspiring and restorative call for action.

[Registration is requested.](#)

Recurring Groups

Chalice Circles

Groups Meet Twice a Month

Great for newcomers and long-timers, Chalice Circle groups offer spiritual connection with 8-10 people. Your group will meet with a facilitator two times monthly (October-June). In this circle, you will have the opportunity to practice listening deeply and intentionally to each other, your lives, and your deepest selves. Exploring a different theme each month, you will deepen your spiritual life and get to know a small group of people in a meaningful way. Please email dll@uufresno.org if you are interested in joining a Chalice Circle!

Conscious Caregivers of Children Group (combining with Mom's Group)

Every 2nd Mom's Group Meeting of the month from 12:30pm-2:00pm

As caregivers, we often know what discipline methods we want to avoid, and we certainly don't want to be permissive. But what does authoritative, effective discipline really look and feel like? Join our group twice a month as we explore this question together. We'll dive into an evidence-based, brain-informed, relationship-centered approach to discipline. Through experiential activities, we'll step into the child's world to better understand their thoughts, feelings, and decisions when experiencing different discipline styles. Let's learn together how to foster a loving, supportive environment while maintaining healthy boundaries. Facilitated by Alisha Mancinas, Certified Positive Discipline Parent Educator

Zen Buddhism Classes

Every Tuesday at 10:30AM

Facilitated by Soshin Bruce Jewell

Soshin Bruce Jewell, a transmitted teacher in the Soto Zen lineage, will be giving a multi week class covering the basic practices and teachings of Zen Buddhism. The course will include meditation instructions, The Four Noble Truths, The Eightfold Path, the Precepts, the Buddhist Psychology as illustrated in the Wheel of Life tanka, and two fundamental sutras.

Grief Support Group

10:00-11:00 am

(every other Friday, ongoing)

Office Conference Room (in church office building) This new support group will be led by Derek Cheatham from Seva Hospice. All types of grief are welcome (not only the loss of a loved one). All are welcome.

This is a drop-in group; no registration needed.

Buddhist Fellowship Meditation and Study Group

Wednesdays at 3 P.M. (on Zoom)

Join our weekly meditation and study group. The Dharma Without Dogma Sangha is an inclusive meditation and study group in which the participants feel an affinity with UU principles and Buddhism. <https://zoom.us/j/94225906754>

UU Humanists

The First Sunday of Every Month at 1 P.M. (on Zoom)

Join our monthly reflection and discussion group. Each month we'll introduce a new topic with an accompanying reading or video to spur reflection, questions, and conversation. Everybody is invited, whether you are curious about Humanism or wanting to explore interesting ideas related to being human, come check it out!

<https://zoom.us/j/97899884496>

UU Bible Study

Thursdays

at 6:00 PM (on Zoom)

Facilitated by Natasha Bibayoff

Have you been curious about the readings of the Bible? Are you looking for a non-judgmental, inclusive place to explore the teachings of the Bible?

In these dynamic, participatory weekly group sessions throughout September, we will study, reflect on, and discuss the teachings of the Bible. Each session will focus on a particular passage, parable, or book from the Bible. Further, we will explore how these teachings may align with the Unitarian Universalists' Principles and Values (or personal values) and how they may help us live those principles and values in a fuller and deeper way.

Come with an open mind and heart to this group as we continue our individual and collective spiritual exploration and growth. [Registration is requested.](#)

Ongoing Outside Programs Meeting on Church Campus

Refuge Recovery

Thursdays at 6:30 P.M. (in Youth Room)

Refuge Recovery is a Buddhist- oriented, nontheistic recovery program that does not ask anyone to believe anything. The program uses the practices of mindfulness, compassion, forgiveness and generosity to heal the pain and suffering that addiction has caused in the lives of those who experience addiction and their loved ones. Meditation practice is the cornerstone of their path. The Fresno Refuge Recovery Sangha has been meeting since 2018. After losing their previous meeting space due to the pandemic, they are very grateful to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno for opening space to have a consistent location. Refuge Recovery meetings are open to anyone and they welcome any and all to attend a meeting. Come check it out! Current facilitator is Andrea.