

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis

Weekly Announcements

Sunday, Mar 15 – Saturday, Mar 21

Sunday Worship and all other events at the Fellowship are CANCELLED this Sunday. Instead, we'll offer a video-recorded service, available on Sunday morning.

“Inner Nobility and Steadiness” Revs. Jill McAllister and Israel Buffardi

We are called by this pandemic -- called to care, to help, and to keep letting love live through us. We are called to live into new ways of thinking, relating, and even being with each other! We are in a time of social re-imagining, and there are many ways to draw closer to each other and to things that truly matter.

The link to the service will be published via UUAnnounce on Sunday morning.

UUFC
2945 NW Circle Blvd
Corvallis, OR 97330
www.uucorvallis.org
541-752-5218



Fellowship Events & Meetings Suspended Due to COVID-19

At this time, we strongly encourage no in-person gatherings at the Fellowship. We join with other UUA congregations in undertaking these extraordinary and necessary measures, because, in the words of our UUA President: “we believe it is our moral obligation to follow the guidance of health professionals who recommend early action even before cases have been confirmed in an area because it is most important to protect public health and the most vulnerable people in our communities. This moment indeed reminds us of our responsibility as religious communities to be mindful of our need to care for our whole community...The most important thing the public can do is to help flatten the curve of transmission so there will be hospital capacity for those need that level of care.”

-UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Fellowship Connections

Updates on coronavirus and the Fellowship: Our highest priority now is to find as many ways as possible to stay connected and help each other. Up-to-date information will continue to be posted on the UUFC website, and on UUAnnounce. Thanks to all who keep sharing information with us as we work to stay aware of developments.

Phone Circles: Connection Council folks are working to create what used to be called “phone trees,” to make it possible for all who would like a regular check-in phone call from others in the Fellowship. For now, if you would like to receive a call, please let Jill McA know. And, if you would like to be a caller, please let Jill know as well. minister@uucorvallis.org

Help create neighborhood connections: Let's map out 12-15 neighborhoods of Fellowship folks, and put together plans for connecting and helping each other as neighbors. Are you able or willing to be a point person for a neighborhood? Or help develop a plan? Please let Jill McAllister know if you are interested.

Need help with grocery shopping? Able to help with shopping for others? Brooke Landberg will coordinate shopping for groceries and other essentials, to be delivered to the door of anyone who can't or doesn't want to go out in public at this time. E-mail or text Brooke if you need this help – she plans to do a first shopping trip on Monday, March 16. And, if you'd like to be a shopper for others please contact Brooke so that she can coordinate. Brooke Landberg: 727-415-6820, brooke.landberg@gmail.com

UUFC Emergency Aid Fund: Financial aid is available, especially for those who might experience loss of income due shutdowns. Requests should be addressed to Jill McA, minister@uucorvallis.org. And, for all those who want to contribute to this fund to help provide aid during this time (thank you!) checks can be made to UUFC with Emergency Aid Fund on the memo line.

Opportunities to Connect and to Help

Wednesday, March 18, at 11:30 am: "Virtual Coffee Hour, with Sharing of Sorrows and Joys"

Join a conference-call meeting using ZOOM to check in with each other and to share sorrows and joys. Information about connecting on your computer, with ZOOM, is included below. Simply click on the zoom link below (once you have loaded zoom on your computer), and follow the prompts, or call in using the phone number.

Join Zoom Meeting – Virtual Coffee Hour

<https://zoom.us/j/836175550?pwd=MkVRbTJiZWZWM4ZlhUU1JaMnpNNHFqUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 175 550 Password: 043654 Join by phone +1 669 900 6833 US

How to connect to a ZOOM event:

If you click on the Zoom link, and you haven't used Zoom before, it should prompt you to download Zoom. You will want to test this out before the meeting time, as it might take you a few minutes to get it downloaded, set up an account, and figure things out. If you are using a computer without a microphone or camera, you can choose to watch the service by Zoom, turning off your computer's volume, and call in and listen by phone. This allows you to speak during the times when we're sharing with each other. When you enter the Zoom room, your microphone will be muted. We will have a Zoom volunteer helping to unmute microphones at the appropriate time. If you need help connecting to or figuring out how to connect to ZOOM, contact UUFC business manager, Jean Gilbert at businessmgr@uucorvallis.org.

Theology on Tap: with Israel Buffardi, will move to an online format. You'll be able to sit at your computer with a beverage of your choice and be part of the discussion. Details will be announced via UUAnnounce.

Food and other supplies needed for Corvallis Schools families while schools are closed: The 509-J district is reaching out to religious communities for help serving the needs of families who generally rely on breakfasts and lunches in schools, plus weekend supplies. Items can be delivered to the Western View Center: 1435 SW 35th Street, Monday-Friday: 9:00-12:00, starting on Monday, March 16. Current requests:

- Non perishable food, hygiene items, toiletries - please continue to check our needs list:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gXNOq4KgeCOZ_Ng0m-VLLQXCvFuC0kbqIXBeusRs2sE/edit?ts=5e6bc9cc
- Reusable grocery bags - Need these ASAP!
- Gift cards: Fred Meyers, Safeway, Winco, Bi-Mart
- Money to help families with rent, utilities, etc. Checks can be made to Corvallis Public Schools Foundation - noted for Families in need

Perspectives on the Pandemic

If you are still trying to understand the severity of this crisis, and the need for everyone to do the best they can at helping decrease the spread of the virus, here are several good sources of information:

On the exponential spread of the virus:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/03/10/coronavirus-what-matters-isnt-what-you-can-see-what-you-cant/>

Experts weigh in on whether you should cancel your dates, dinner parties, and gym sessions:

https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2020/03/coronavirus-what-does-social-distancing-mean/607927/?utm_source=atl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share

Data on the disease and prevention:

<https://www.flattenthecurve.com/>

"This pandemic is already revealing the gross inequities of our society. Those without insurance or without adequate insurance may not be able to access needed care. Incarcerated people in New York State are making an emergency stockpile of hand sanitizer for pennies an hour, even while hand sanitizer is banned in most prisons. We are completely unprepared for the likely outbreak of COVID-19 among incarcerated people, among the 38,000 immigrants detained by

ICE, or among the more than 50,000 people camped on our border or waiting in Mexican shelters for the chance to apply for asylum. And old prejudices have reared their ugly heads, as Chinese and other Asian people have been vilified and attacked in the streets, and as antisemitic conspiracy theories blame this plague on the Jews — just as the black plague was blamed on us.” *Rabbi Jill Jacobs*

“The very last thing we need right now is a **mindset** of mutual distancing,” the rabbi wrote. “We actually need to be thinking in the exact opposite way. Every hand that we don’t shake must become a phone call that we place. Every embrace that we avoid must become a verbal expression of warmth and concern. Every inch and every foot that we physically place between ourselves and another must become a thought as to how we might help that other, should the need arise. Let’s stay safe. And let’s draw one another closer in a way that we’ve never done before.” *Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky*

Program and Event Information – Looking Ahead

Parent Orientation for Our Whole Lives (OWL) K-1 Program is cancelled.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) Programs for Grades 4-6 and 7-9 are postponed at this time.

All Chalice Circle Groups in-person meetings are cancelled at this time. Online gatherings are planned.

Emma’s Revolution in Concert at UUFC, scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 7:30 PM, is Postponed.

Looking Ahead to April:

Our Place in the Web of Life - Environmental Justice & Spirituality Course: We are offering this 5-session course on the consequences of our actions on other people and ecosystems—and what it really takes to embrace interconnected-ness. **5 sessions:** March 30, April 6, April 20, April 27, May 11 from 7 - 9PM. Facilitated by Rev. Israel Buffardi.
Contact: assistantminister@uucorvallis.org

“Think Resilience” Course: April 5 – May 17 at UUFC: The course will take place on Sundays, from April 5 to May 17, 9:30 to 10:30 AM, in Room 7. For more information, and to register, contact Lynn Scott: lynnscoottoregon@gmail.com.

UUFC Immigrant & Refugee Support Team invites YOU to *Building Bridges - Neighbor to Neighbor Conference about Immigration*: The conference will be held in Albany Friday evening, April 24, and Saturday, April 25. Registration has been extended until April 16. There is no cost to register and attend. Conference information is included in the on-line registration form **below:** Questions? Contact Melinda Sayavedra at sayavedl@peak.org
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdyOIpAL4O_yGfIBAvVQo098W8E25BsSW5b3UcdlRtYfMIKOA/viewform.

UUFC Annual Pledge Drive Begins April 3, 2020

Each spring the UUFC asks all members and friends to make a promise of financial support (a pledge) for the coming fiscal year (July 1 to June 30). The Annual Pledge Drive provides the funds that make the life of our Fellowship possible. Finances are very important during the Annual Pledge Drive, and at the same time our larger goal is to give everyone an opportunity to reconnect with the Fellowship and to reflect on: what brings you here, what keeps you coming back, our personal and spiritual commitments to each other and to our world, and the fact that giving can be a spiritual practice.

A pledge is a promise to donate a certain amount of money to the Fellowship during the fiscal year. It is a statement of intent. It is not a legally binding obligation. While pledging is not required for membership, to participate in the pledge drive is one of the responsibilities of membership. We depend upon pledges for the continued health and well-being of our Fellowship. In the next few weeks, all are invited to consider reviewing and renewing your commitment to the Fellowship and its mission, as we prepare to enter into the season of stewardship and the pledge drive.

Contact Us

Rev. Jill McAllister

Senior Minister

minister@uucorvallis.org

Rev. Israel Buffardi

Assistant Minister for Religious Exploration

assistantminister@uucorvallis.org

Jamie Petts

Operations Manager

office@uucorvallis.org

Jean Gilbert

Business Manager

businessmgr@uucorvallis.org

Rachel Kohler

Religious Exploration Associate

reassociate@uucorvallis.org

Dr. David Servias

Music Director

music@uucorvallis.org

Lauren Servias

Pianist

Church Office

(541)752-5218

Website: www.uucorvallis.org

Email: office@uucorvallis.org

Office Hours: Currently Closed

[Typically: Monday & Wednesday 10 AM – 2 PM

Tuesday & Thursday 8 AM – 12 PM]

***The UUFC Office is closed on all federal holidays**