

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis

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



Weekly Announcements

Sunday, May 3 – Saturday, May 9

Sunday Worship and all other events at the Fellowship remain CANCELLED. We're offering a video-recorded service, sent out each weekend on UU-Announce.

This week: "This Is How We Change"
Revs. Jill McAllister & Israel Buffardi

Ethical living requires learning, growing and changing. What an incredible exercise in ethical living we are engaged in right now! We're learning so much – more than we are aware of, and we are being changed. This is the way we go forward into a new and better world.

A Time for All Ages story and craft will also be sent out on Sunday, and another one mid-week.

Weekly Sunday Offerings

The offering this week will support the **Jackson Street Youth Shelter** in Corvallis, which provides shelter and resources for youth who are not safe or welcome at home. The need has not decreased during this crisis.

Thanks for your support last week of the Heartland Humane society. While their primary sources of funding have decreased drastically, the animals in their care still

need food, shelter and care. Your contributions to both of these local organizations are very much appreciated!

*To make a donation to the weekly offering, go the [UUFC web page](http://www.uucorvallis.org) and click on the "SUNDAY DONATIONS" button.

Stewardship: The UUFC Annual Pledge Drive is almost finished. All of us are needed! If you have not yet done so **Please pledge online TODAY, or as soon as you are able**, so we can begin to prepare our budget and next steps for 2021-22. Follow-up calls have begun.

If you haven't received an email from the Fellowship address stewardship@uucorvallis.org with pledge materials and links to complete your pledge online, then please check your spam folder or "promotions" tab in gmail, or contact Business Manager, Jean Gilbert, businessmgr@uucorvallis.org. Finance Council members and others are also available to talk you through online pledging as needed.

Thank you to all who have made a pledge! We are in this together, with and for each other, for the world. If you've never made a pledge before, please consider doing so.

Fellowship Connections

Annual UUFC Services Auction Online, beginning Saturday May 2: Thanks to everyone who donated items! **Bidding will take place online May 2 – May 10.** Help is needed: Judy Westlake needs help with recording donations and entering donors and bidders. Please contact her if you would like to help at 541-740-9457 or judywestlake@comcast.net.

UUFC Annual Meeting, Sunday, May 17: The annual meeting will take place on the regularly scheduled date, online. It will include financial reports and updates on the health of the Fellowship, especially related to the global pandemic. We'll hear an update on the building expansion/renovation project, the Religious Exploration re-visioning project, a road-map for the coming year, and feedback and suggestions for the good of the Fellowship. We'll vote on new members of the Board of Directors. The slate of directors is included below. Please plan to be part of the annual meeting this year! The Nominating Committee offers this **Slate for UUFC Board of Directors, June 2020:** President – Steve Strauss, Secretary - Anna Sontag, Treasurer – Herky Gottfried, Directors: Scott Bruslind, Ann Mbacke, Darius Adams, Kedo Baye, Sheryl Stuart.

No Leadership Supper: Leadership Report Instead Since we couldn't gather for the final leadership supper of the year, a leadership update has been prepared instead. It has been e-mailed to leaders of teams, task forces, councils events,

committees. If you'd like to read it, [click here](#). *In response, we hope leaders will send in short reports on their activities in this church year, and ideas for the next church year.*

WEEKLY PRACTICES AND CONNECTIONS

- ~Join the **Daily Practice** with an e-mail from Jill, sent out each weekday morning.
- ~Join Israel Buffardi **weekdays** on UUFC Facebook live for the noon-time meditation / blessings.
- ~Join the **Wednesday virtual coffee hour** with sharing of sorrows and joys, 11:30 AM. Join in by Zoom, for greeting and centering together. The zoom link will be sent out via UU-Announce.
- ~Share the **mid-week and Sunday** Time for All Ages stories and crafts.
- ~**Wednesdays, Evening Mindfulness Practice** is live on Zoom from 7:00PM – 7:30PM. You may join on your computer or by phone call. Join about 5 minutes before to make sure your system is connected. Watch UU-Announce for the Zoom link. If you are new to Zoom email Patti ahead of time and she may be able to help you. Patricia White: minerva5cl@gmail.com.
- ~**Friday Kirtan** 7-8:30pm. The Zoom link for each week will be announced on UU-Announce.
- ~**Turning toward Our Hearts**, A time of music, poetry, and sharing with each other what is in our hearts. Led by Susan Sanford, Anna Coffman and Cliff Pereira on Zoom, **Thursday May 14 and Tuesday May 26**. Time: TBD.

With Sorrow we share the news of the death of Fellowship member Erin Cimbri. Erin joined in 2018, and did not have much time to get to know the Fellowship before her health began to decline. To her friends and family we send our prayers and condolences.

Sunday, May 10 – All About the UUA General Assembly: UUFC members who attended the 2019 GA in Spokane, WA, will share from their experience and insights for the May 10 Sunday service. General Assembly will be online this year, so many more people will be able to participate. Find out more here: <https://www.uua.org/ga>.

UUFC Emergency Aid Fund: Thank you so much to all who have made donations to this fund recently! The Emergency Aid Fund allows us to give financial aid, up to \$500 per family, especially now for those who might experience loss of income due shutdowns. Requests should be addressed to Jill McA, minister@uucorvallis.org. 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 noted.

Help is available if you need it: The ministers, members of the Fellowship Care and Support Team, and several counselors and psychologists are available to talk if you need us. Food and grocery delivery is available. Technical support for making phone and computer connections is available. Contact Jill or Israel, even if you're not sure what you need and you just want to talk: minister@uucorvallis.org, assistantminister@uucorvallis.org.

Opportunities to Help

Take action with #UUtheVote: Write your Representatives and Senators to safeguard free and fair elections in the stimulus bill, including expanded vote by mail. <https://www.uua.org/justice/vote2020/congregational-organizing/tell-congress-prepare-elections-covid-19-crisis>

Perspectives on the Pandemic

The center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that Americans wear masks outside the home primarily to protect the community, not themselves. A simple cotton mask might not stop much from coming in, but it can stop up to 99% of particles from exiting into the air. Countries that have universally committed to wearing masks have seen clear drops in infection numbers. In the United States, wearing masks for the public good could effectively halt the virus: Models suggest that if just 80% of the population protects those around them, [the rate at which the coronavirus spreads could plummet to a stop](#). Do you need a mask? Let us know: office@uucorvallis.org.

A strong article on the world we can't afford to return to, by George Packer of the Atlantic Monthly: "We Are Living in a Failed State."
https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2020/06/underlying-conditions/610261/?utm_source=atl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share

Although the Navajo Nation has the third highest COVID 19 infection rate in America, the US government has not responded to the Navajos' pleas for help for six weeks. Previous US government uranium mining on their reservation lands led to miners' deaths, dangerous abandoned mines, and serious health effects, learn more at https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/navajo_birth_cohort_study/index.html Radiation exposure and pollution created underlying health conditions, which magnify the risks of COVID 19. Lack of access to water and health care due to neglect and

broken promises from the US government made this tragedy. Today we can save lives by supporting the Navajo Nation's COVID 19 Relief Fund <https://www.nndoh.org/donate.html> (From Dr. Linda Richards, OSU History of Science)

The Oregon Health Authority has a comprehensive webpage outlining our local situation and efforts. You can sign up for a daily email from the by visiting this page: <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>

Where We Are This Week.....Reflections from Jill

Most of us now understand that the changes we have already experienced will continue, and that we are in this for the long haul. We are resigned, and there is weariness. The stay-at-home orders will be lifted, slowly and we will feel both liberated and afraid. For now, we are stockpiling courage and building capacity for these new realities. There is sadness, sometimes just around the corner where we can't quite see it, but we know it's there, and sometimes it overwhelms us and is intense. And, there is hope – for the new world and new ways of living that are beginning now. We can't go back to old ways, old habits and expectations. We can't continue to think of ourselves first. We have to think of ourselves and everyone else at the same time. There is so much brokenness to heal. And the reality today is the reality of everyday – we can each only do what we can. But what we can do, we must do, whatever is the best we can offer. The best is in each of us and all around us! In creativity, compassion and caring. May these words from the Talmud be a guide and support: "Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly now. Love mercy now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." (from the Pirkei Avot)

*We need joy as we need air.
We need love as we need water.
We need each other as we need the earth we share.*

Maya Angelou

Stewardship: Caring for Our Congregation

As of Friday, May 1, we have 196 pledges, and approximately \$ 352,448 pledged, toward our goals of participation by all members and friends, and holding the budget steady from last year. We're doing great! And, we need everyone! **Please do your part, by joining in. Make your pledge today.**

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
Phone and e-mail are checked regularly.