

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis

UUFC
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Weekly Announcements

Sunday, June 28 – Saturday, July 4, 2020

Sunday Worship and all other events at the Fellowship continue to be on-line. We offer a video-recorded or broadcast worship service, with a link sent out each Saturday on UU-Announce.

Sunday, June 28: General Assembly Worship & UUFC Virtual Coffee Hour

This Sunday, we invite everyone to join in viewing the Sunday Worship Service from General Assembly (GA), the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

[This service will be broadcast directly on the UUA website via this link at 10 a.m. PDT.](#) This is the West Coast broadcast: you can comment live, but you won't be on camera or able to speak.

After the service has finished, we will have a 10 minute break, and then all invited to join in a **UUFC Virtual Coffee Hour**. We will gather together, and then break out into small groups for informal connection and conversation [You can join the Virtual Coffee Hour by clicking on this link](#). If prompted to enter a **password**, enter **153538**.

More About General Assembly Worship Service, Sunday, June 28, 10 AM:

Join us for the largest annual gathering of UUs, joining in worship. Rev. Joan Javier-Duval will deliver the sermon. She serves as Minister of the Unitarian Church of Montpelier, VT., is the daughter of immigrants from the Philippines, the mother of a kindergartener, and spouse of a proud Vermonter. Beauty, gratitude, and love are at the heart of her faithful striving for collective liberation and a thriving planet. The worship service will include a collection for the Tomaquag Museum, an indigenous museum featuring an extensive collection and archive of Southern New England tribal communities. The service will also be available for on-demand viewing starting at 11:00 a.m PDT.

Upcoming Sundays:

July 5: Speaker - Jacob King. Jacob heard a call to ministry while serving as a US military officer at the Mexican border. What he experienced there led him to think deeply about the ethical life. He is now a student at Starr King School for the Ministry, and has spent the past year as a Fellowship YRUU advisor.

July 12: Rev. Israel Buffardi will preach his final service as the Assistant Minister for Religious Exploration at the Fellowship. A few days later he and his family will move to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he'll begin his position Senior Minister of the UU Church of Lancaster.

Summer Sunday Soapbox Series: Do you have an issue you care deeply about, which you'd like to share with others at the Fellowship? In this updated version of "Soapbox Sunday", we'll have a series of speakers, depending upon who would like to speak. Each speaker will have 10-15 minutes, plus some time for Q&A. This series will most likely be live, via Zoom, on Sunday mornings in July or August. Please let Rev. Jill McAllister know if you'd like to be a speaker, by July 12. minister@uucorvallis.org.

You may also join by phone by dialing 1-253-215-8782 or 1-669-900-6833.

A Time for All Ages story will be sent out on Saturday evening. During the summer, there will only be one RE activity each week, sent on Saturday evening.

Weekly Sunday Offering

This is our final Sunday to support **We Care**, a local interfaith network, providing emergency aid for families and individuals. To make a donation to the weekly offering, go to the [UUFC web page](#) and click on the "SUNDAY DONATIONS" button.

FIRST STEPS CLASS, 11 AM Sunday June 28th

Are YOU, or is SOMEONE YOU KNOW interested in: Learning more about Unitarian-Universalism? Exploring what UUFC has to offer? Discovering how one might make meaningful connections and build community? Contact Elona Meyer at elonameyer@icloud.com; she will provide the Zoom link, agenda, & readings.!

Fellowship Connections -----

News, Notes and Thank-Yous

~We send our good wishes, support and love to John Bailey and his family, mourning the death of his mother, in Virginia; and to Dave Petts and his family, mourning the death of his grandmother, in Iowa.

~Thank-you! To Rachel Brinker and Skyla Christisen, new co-chairs of the Religious Exploration Council. The council has just developed a beautiful transition plan for our RE program, which will begin in the autumn.

~Love and Support to all our LGBTQI Fellowship folks, as we near the end of Pride month. You are beautiful, you are appreciated, you are needed. May there yet be opportunities for reflection and nurture this month, even amid the chaos.

UUtheVote: Building our Local and National Network – Please Join Us!

This week UUtheVote members across the country, including here in Covallis, are calling Texans who seldom vote. Texas has a primary runoff in July. If we can get "seldom voters" to vote in the primary, they'll vote again in November.

What will you tell your children and grandchildren about your participation in this momentous 2020 election? Wouldn't you like to tell them how hard you fought for the future of democracy and our planet at the ballot box by helping get out the vote? That you fought for human rights at the ballot box? What will your legacy be? I believe our UUtheVote Team members will have some great stories to tell about how we joined together to vote our values in this election. How each of us helped make a difference in this turning point facing humanity.

Membership campaign update: We need 21 new members in the next 13 days to reach our goal of 100 members. If you recruit over 2 members you are eligible to win one of our contest prizes including a **\$100 check** made out to the cause you choose - donated in your name. For example, you could increase your UU Pledge by a hundred bucks or you could . . .

Join because together we can share in the works of love which none of us can accomplish alone. To join contact our membership chair now: PeterFStoel@gmail.com John Swanson, facilitator, Corvallis UUtheVote Team: jnhf@aol.com

Climate Justice News: Offsetting Our Carbon Emissions

In response to the February /March campaign to raise \$1,920 to offset 32 ton of carbon emissions from our gas and electricity purchases in 2019, Business Manager Jean Gilbert has mailed a check for \$2,118 to Seeds for the Sol. Thank-you to all who helped exceed the goal! And to Climate Action Team members Michael Hughes, Deborah Clarke and Jack Elder for the idea and the logistics.

UUFC Women's Retreat August 8, 2020 - Register Open Now – right here

[Register Now](#) for the **2020 Women's Retreat: "Expanding Our Creative Potentials to Give."**

When: August 8, 2020 Where: Online (Zoom) Suggested donation \$10 - \$20; no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Plan to join the all new online retreat format! Highlights include: 3 great presenters, social time during coffee hour and happy hour and follow-up creative pod activity sessions. Watch the UU-Announce listserve for more details, registration information, and a call for Creative Pod group facilitators.

The 2020 UUFC-WR Team: Eileen Maxfield, Joyce Federiuk, Barb Lachenbruch, Bonnie Morihara, Emily Rosen and Julie Halter.

Help is Available: 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.

Fellowship Weekly Calendar, and Plan Ahead-----

Weekly Practices and Connections

~Join the **Daily Practice** with an e-mail from Jill, sent out each weekday morning on UU-Announce.

~Join Israel Buffardi **weekdays** on UUFC Facebook live for the noon-time meditation / blessings, **for one more week.**

~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 is sent out via UU-Announce on Tuesday evenings.

~Share the **Sunday Time** for All Ages stories, crafts and family resources.

~**Wednesdays, Evening Mindfulness Practice** is live on Zoom from 7:00PM – 7:30PM. 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.

~**Friday Kirtan** 7-8:30 pm. The Zoom link for each week is announced on UU-Announce.

~ Chalice circles, book groups, discussion groups, RE groups and more are available. Contact office@uucorvallis.org for info.

Plan Ahead

Saturday, July 11: Orientation and planning retreat for the Board of Directors, online.

Sunday, July 12: Farewell to Rev. Israel Buffardi and his family, as they move to Pennsylvania to begin his new ministry. This will be an outdoor activity, probably primarily a drive-by event. Stay tuned for details.

Saturday, August 8: Women's Retreat, online

Anti-racism events – see below under Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter

Your Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Team invites you to:

Dine with DiAngelo: Using the link provided, set aside some time to listen to DiAngelo--or to read her book, *White Fragility*. Then bring your favorite snack plate & beverage and join us **5 PM, Monday, June 29th** to discuss White Fragility and its role in maintaining the status quo. **RSVP to elonameyer@icloud.com** for additional materials. Link for June 29th: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86486569813?pwd=RIZ4Zk1kNmJET2E5UHdLS2NEVmxZz09> **Links for Robin on White Fragility.** : <https://youtu.be/DwIx3KQer54> or <https://youtu.be/45ey4jgoxeU>

Contemplate the 13th on the 13th: Want a fuller understanding of the effects of systemic racism on our criminal justice system? View the Ava DuVernay's compelling documentary, *The 13th*. Or read Michele Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*. Then join us at **6 PM, Monday, July 13th** to discuss your perspectives and questions from your reading/viewing experience 13th with this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85600546784?pwd=eVhHbXk3VldFVnlpWTN6bmRhdmFoZz09>

Book Discussion: Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, & Power

Revs. Jill McAllister and Israel Buffardi will be hosting a discussion group, of readings from the 2017 Skinner House book, *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity, and Power in Ministry*. This book was the UUA common read in 2017-2018. A joint project of the Committee for Antiracism, Anti-oppression, and Multiculturalism of the UUMA and Skinner House Books, *Centering* is the first book to center the stories, analysis, and insight of Unitarian Universalists of color offering their religious leadership. Discussions will take place on five **Monday** evenings at **7:00PM, starting June 29th**. Discussions will focus on a few essays per session. A PDF of the first couple essays will be provided, but participants will need to purchase the book to continue. *Centering* can be purchased through the [UUA Bookstore via this link](#). Please **RSVP** to Israel Buffardi, assistantminister@uucorvallis.org to attend, or to request financial assistance with the cost of the book.

Where We Are This Week:reflections from Jill

We enter the summer season at the Fellowship. Usually, that's when we switch to only one Sunday service, and everything slows down just a little bit. This year, it's hard to notice the difference, but let's try (especially that part about everything slowing down just a little bit.) There are still so many ways to connect with each other. And, if you'd like to see other ways to connect – more chances to just hang out and talk on Zoom, or organized coffee or crafting or meal meetings (Zoom) for example, please just let me know and we'll see what can be arranged. Some changes are coming (as always) – soon we'll say goodbye to Israel and wish him and Abigail and Nicola well on their new beginnings, and soon we'll say welcome back to Jamie Petts, as she eases in to her work as the Church Operations Manager. I'd like to spend some of these summer weeks visiting with some of you. If you'd like a visit (at appropriate distance, outside, with masks!) please let me know! And if you do nothing else this summer, please choose at least one book to read about racism and how to be an anti-racist. It is a time for rest, but not for turning away from a world in need. May we continue to bless the space between us, and to nurture inner nobility and steadiness.

Pandemic Response

COVID-19 cases continue to increase

There are new cases of COVID-19 in Benton County this week. In many states across the country, the virus is surging. It is clear that this is no time to loosen restrictions. Please continue to use as much precaution as possible.

Wearing a mask is one of the most effective preventative measures. Do you need a mask? If so, we can help. Let us know: office@uucorvallis.org.

The Fellowship Building Remains Closed [UUA Guidelines on Gathering In Person as COVID-19 Subsides](#)

UUFC Board of Directors: Decision to maintain building closure for the time-being

Your board of directors heard recommendations from a task force on what Phase 2 openings in Oregon mean for the Fellowship. We noted the current increase in COVID cases around the state and country, predictions for continued increases and therefore continuing risks; we noted the hardships of isolation; we noted the input of members; we noted guidelines from our insurers. Taking all of this into consideration, the Board agreed these next steps in July and August:

1. Plan an outdoor-only activity for Sunday July 12, as a farewell for Israel Buffardi and his family, which may include some drive-by / stay-in-car elements, and some appropriately spaced / face-covered on-the-lawn elements.
2. If the July 12 event is successful, and all follow safety procedures, consider holding a similar event in August.
3. In deciding whether to allow small group meetings at the Fellowship, first find out what kinds of meetings are considered of high importance to do at the Fellowship instead of in people's yards or in parks. Only if a case can be made that a small group gathering must be at the Fellowship, then consider the necessary logistics for that to occur (such as logging in all participants, all distancing and face covering protocols followed, monitoring, sanitation, etc.?)

The Board is aware of the strong desire for social contact, but advises great caution given the very serious threats to the health and welfare of our congregation that a UUFC-associated outbreak would impose. This policy decision will be revisited as conditions for the spread of the virus become less favorable or effective treatments and vaccines become widely available. The task force and board will continue to monitor changes around the state which could give us different options, and will provide updates in the weekly announcements. We always welcome your thoughts, suggestions and concerns – please contact us at office@uucorvallis.org.

Explore. Love. Act. We gather as an inclusive religious community to search for meaning, build deep connections, and inspire action toward a better world for all.

CONTACT US

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Office Hours: Currently Closed

Phone and e-mail are checked regularly