

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis

UUFC
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Weekly Announcements

Sunday, August 23 – Saturday, August 29, 2020

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

Sunday, August 23:

“Partnerships: Old and New”

Jill welcomes Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana, the founder of Flaming Chalice International, supporting African UU refugees and immigrants around the world. The UUFC is a partner in this work. As partners, we still have so much to learn with each other as we continue to work together for a just and humane world.

A Time for All Ages lesson or story will be sent out on Saturday evening. These posts are truly for ALL ages.

Between Us.....reflections from Jill

A few more weeks of summer and then we begin a new church year. There are many great things to look forward to – a collaborative RE program with support and participation from five congregations; guest speakers and preachers who can join us because travel is not required; lots of great work with the UUtheVote team – because this is certainly the most important election of our lives!; and continuing to learn how to effectively be a congregation outside of our building, living our values and helping others.

I know – a positive attitude can be helpful, but it can also be annoying. Natalie Dattilo, PhD, a clinical health psychologist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, notes that positivity can sometimes feel toxic - “like shoving ice cream into somebody’s face when they don’t feel like having ice cream. That’s not really going to make them feel better,” she said. Leaving opinions about ice cream aside, I agree that it’s very important to acknowledge all of our feelings about living in these challenging times. It is extremely difficult in so many ways, AND we are making our way, day by day, doing the best we can. All may not be fine in the end, but we will make it to the end of this particular challenge, and when we get there we will have changed in many ways, some of them sorely needed. I try to remember that the seeds I sow each day, now, will be sources of what I reap in the months and years ahead. I try, as often as possible, to sow seeds of love and compassion and wisdom – in myself, and for others. And I ask for help when I need it. May you too, sow seeds of love and compassion, and please, ask for help as often as you need to. We truly are all in this together.

Fellowship Connections

Online Rummage Sale is this week! Monday through Friday

The UUFC Reduce-Reuse-Recycle Extravaganza—our annual Rummage Sale—online this year for safety. The R3 Extravaganza will take place this week. The format is an online auction, which is even more fun!

Making a Bid / Looking at the Catalog: Bid on items beginning at 9:00 AM, August 24 through 5:00 PM, August 30 at charityauction.bid/Rummage2020

Click on Catalog (or on the 3 lines that open the Menu)

August Sunday Offerings

This month we’re supporting the Corvallis Schools Family Support program, which includes the McKinney Homeless Education Fund, to support Corvallis students who are struggling to be able to keep learning, now with even greater needs due to the pandemic. (See more detailed information under the Pandemic Response section of this newsletter.) To make a donation to the weekly offering, go the [UUFC web page](#) and click on the "SUNDAY DONATIONS" button.

Upcoming Sunday Services

August 30 – UUFC members: What I’m Learning

September 6 – Blessings Day: A Sunday drive-by event

September 13 – Homecoming Sunday: A live Zoom service

RE Newsletter coming soon – with details about our RE collaboration this year. The UUFC Religious Exploration program is excited to partner with five other UU congregations across the country to provide a robust online RE experience for the 2020-2021 church year. The coalition is called “AFIRE: Alliance for Inspiring Religious Exploration.” There will be online programs available for every age, from preschool activities to Coming of Age to parent groups to a substantial adult RE program called UU University. Online “open house” sessions will be held in early September, so stay tuned for details!

Do you have a chalice at home? We hope that every Fellowship member and friend has a chalice as we enter into the new church year, so that we can light our chalices together each Sunday. Chalices will be available at the Sept. 6 Sunday drive-by Blessings Day. We’ll also send out instructions for how to make a chalice at home. Or, send an email to office@uucorvallis.org, letting us know you need and want a chalice and we’ll set up a delivery brigade.

“Heart to Heart: UUFC conversations about what is moving inside us,” Fridays, 4 PM, via zoom. Care and Support Team leader David Maxfield hosts a weekly connection time for members and friends. It’s an open, facilitated conversation. When more than 6 people attend, break-out rooms are used to allow conversation in smaller groups. Each session begins with a chalice lighting and brief check-in, and ends with closing words. The zoom invitation is sent via UU-Announce.

Our UUtheVote Team is growing - five new members this month. We’re taking more and more actions, especially more Vote Forward letter writing. We’re building a Phone Banking team, and there will be opportunities for testers as well. With only ten weeks to go, we are gearing up for a big push. Join us by contacting our membership chair at: peterfstoel@gmail.com We’ll connect you to ways to defend our democracy and to vote your values, and our team will support your efforts.

UUtheVote Award: The Center for American Progress has named UUTV National Organizer Nicole Pressley and UUA Organizing Strategy Team Director Rev Ashley Horan as two faith leaders to watch in 2020! This honor is an acknowledgment of all WE are doing too.

Chronic Health Conditions Group – Tuesday, August 25, 1 PM.

We gather by Zoom. Call Christine Robins at 541-738-2610 for more information.

No Tuna Roast this year, but there will be roasted tuna! For several decades, we’ve begun the new church year with a Labor Day Tuna Roast and Picnic at Avery Park. Unfortunately, we won’t be able to do that this year! However, not all is lost! Rich Brainerd has graciously agreed to help facilitate providing some of his yummy marinated, grilled, fresh tuna for all who are interested. **The roast tuna will be available by pre-order only!** Orders will be distributed at the Sunday Sept. 6 Drive-By Blessings day, and delivered to those who can’t come out. Instructions for ordering tuna will be sent via UUAnnounce.

Next Steps for Communication Platforms for the Fellowship With the aim of increasing and improving platforms and formats for important conversations in the Fellowship, especially during the pandemic, here are some of the planned next steps:

~the current UU-Discuss listserv will be re-named and aimed more closely at sharing of resources and needs that are not necessarily Fellowship programs or events.

~A new platform or platforms will be created to host important Fellowship conversations and discussions. A meeting for all interested is the next step, to discuss benefits of different formats and help decide where to begin. Stay tuned!

From the Fellowship Music Department – A hymn project for the new church year

Have you ever wondered where your favorite UU hymn comes from? Who wrote it? What was the inspiration behind the words and music? This Fall we’ll create short videos featuring the origins and contexts of some favorite UU hymns. If you have suggestions or ideas for this, I would love to hear them. Please send an email to davidservias@gmail.com.

UUFC Produce Sharing When: Every Wednesday and every Saturday from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Where: Outside the Firwood entrance of UUFC. Guidelines: Please bring your own reusable bags for pickup. There will also be a few clean paper bags. Please wear mask and keep distance if others are there. Happy sharing and eating. Email Catherine Whiting catherinewhiting@gmail.com if you have questions.

Indigenous Connections Reading Group

The Indigenous Connections group will begin reading Charles Wilkinson's *The People are Dancing Again: The History of the Siletz Tribe of Western Oregon*, on Thursday, August 27th at 4 pm on zoom. This book was commissioned by the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians. At the first meeting we'll talk about the introduction and about our group process. We're inviting people from nearby UU congregations to join us. A Siletz tribal member will also join us for some discussions. Please respond by email to Michael Hughes, michael.a.hughes1951@gmail.com to join in, and to receive a zoom link. Please put "Indigenous" as the subject.

Fellowship Weekly Calendar – including Zoom meetings

As we work toward even more online gathering opportunities, we have reinstated the use of the Fellowship calendar so you can see when online gatherings (usually via Zoom) are happening: <https://uucorvallis.org/calendar/>

Weekly Practices and Connections

- ~Join the **Daily Practice** with an e-mail from Jill, sent out each weekday morning on UU-Announce.
- ~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.
- ~**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.
- ~**Friday "Heart to Heart"** 4 PM An open forum for Fellowship members and friends. The zoom link will be sent on UU-Announce.
- ~**Men's Weekly Gathering** – Sundays at noon. Zoom link sent by UUAnnounce.
- ~Share the **Sunday Time for All Ages** stories, crafts and family resources.
- ~Chalice circles, book groups, discussion groups, RE groups, justice work and more are available. Contact office@uucorvallis.org for info.

Plan Ahead

- ~Memorial Service for David Sundquist, via Zoom, Saturday, August 29, 3 PM
- ~Sunday, September 6 – Blessings for A New Year – a drive-by event
- ~Sunday, September 13 – Homecoming Sunday, with a live Zoom Sunday service for all
- ~Sunday, September 20 – New RE year begins, with offerings for all ages.

Fellowship Zoom Account for Small Group meetings

Coming soon, our Fellowship Zoom account will become available for small groups to reserve. These reservation requests should be limited to small meetings with not largely publicized meeting links, because security will be loosened in those meetings in order for us to enable non-staff members to host.

Is using the Fellowship Zoom account right for your group? The advantage: longer meetings (more than 40 minutes) are available using the Fellowship account. The disadvantages: 1. Scheduling with the office must occur, as we can still only host one meeting at a time, and 2. the Zoom security is not as strong.

In order to keep it as secure as possible, we need a team of a few people who are willing to host Fellowship Zoom meetings to be trained in how to do so. Let Jamie Petts know if you'd like to be trained.

To request use of the Fellowship Zoom account, check the church calendar first (<https://uucorvallis.org/calendar/>) to assure availability, then send an email to Jamie at office@uucorvallis.org with the name of the event, date, and time. If it's reoccurring, please indicate that.

If you're using a personal Zoom account for a Fellowship meeting and would like the meeting to show up on the UUFC calendar so others can potentially join, please send the same information as above (name of the event, date, and time) to Jamie, note that it's a personal account, and she'll add it to the calendar.

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

UU the Vote, Black Lives Matter and Climate Justice: An Intersection

UU the Vote, Side With Love, and UUSC are excited to invite you to [Taking A Collective Breath: Deepening our alignment with the Movement for Black Lives](#), a five-session series built around the elements of the BREATHE Act and created in a collaboration between Side With Love and UUSC. The webinars will explore the components of the [BREATHE Act](#) and utilize its structure as a way to focus our energies to effectively support ongoing racial justice work. Come learn and build with local and national partners who are shaping conditions to make liberation possible. This is an invitation to locate yourself in this moment as well, we each have a role to play.

UUFC Worship Archives

Sunday services are archived on the Fellowship web site, at uucorvallis.org. The monthly Art Wall offering is now also available there too. If you'd like to share artwork in a Sunday Service, please contact Niya Standish at niyabeth@gmail.com. If you'd like to share bouquets, please contact Chere Pereira at cherep@comcast.net.

The July 2020 UUFC Justice Newsletter is posted here: https://uucorvallis.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Justice-news-July-2020.FINAL_.pdf

Pandemic Response

New guidance on the mask requirements were provided on August 13, with specific information for work places.

You can read the new guidance here: <https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/1e2288K.pdf>.

Wearing a mask is required in all indoor public spaces in Benton county, and the entire state of Oregon. Also, as of July 15, masks are also required in all outdoor spaces where social distancing of 6 feet or more is not possible, and children over the age of 5 are required to wear one as well. 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.

N95 Mask Giveaway in Benton County Saturday, August 22, 2020, 9:00 am to 12:00

Masks, and hand-sanitizer will be available at several locations, for drive-by pickup:

- ~The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 4141 NW Harrison Blvd.
- ~Crossroads Christian Fellowship, 2555 NW Highland Blvd.
- ~Corvallis Farmer's Market, NW 1st Street
- ~Southgate Plaza, SW 3rd Street
- ~Philomath Fire Station, 1035 Main Street in Philomath

An essay from “**The Clergy Letter Project**” discusses how religious institutions are dealing with the Covid-19 crisis and offers lessons for others, including academic institutions. Read the essay by clicking [here](#).

Corvallis School District Family Support Our Sunday offerings support this effort during the month of August. In addition to financial support, the Welcome Center is in need of these items:

Canned items such as pasta sauce, proteins, vegetables, fruit, soups and instant meals such as chili or ravioli

Cereals, oatmeal, pasta, macaroni and cheese, ramen,

Snacks: granola bars, nuts, crackers, applesauce

Other: laundry soap, dish soap, cleaning supplies, hand soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, cream rinse, sanitary pads, diapers, pull ups. We are always in need of gift cards and laundry cards

**We appreciate items that can fit in a grocery bag such as small containers of liquid laundry soap. We can only send out food that is within the pull date. Donations can be dropped off Monday-Thursday, 9 am – 12 noon at the Western View Center located at 1435 SW 35th Street.*

The Corvallis Sewing Brigade hub is now located at the Circle Blvd entrance to the UUFC. For updates about the brigade, please check CorvallisSewingBrigade.org or the Corvallis Sewing Brigade Facebook page.

The Fellowship Building Remains Closed: UUA Guidelines on Gathering In Person

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.