

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis

Weekly Announcements

Sunday, August 9 – Saturday, August 15, 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 9: “How Is It With Your Soul?” UUFC Member Kari Gottfried

These are days in which we must take care of ourselves as well as others. For Kari Gottfried, the UUFC mission – Explore, Love, Act – provides a beautiful framework for self-care. Kari grew up in the Fellowship, is a recognized and active UU Young Adult leader, and a student of Religion and Political Science at Wellesley University. She dreams of becoming a UU minister.

A Time for All Ages lesson or story will be sent out on Saturday evening. These posts are truly for ALL ages. During the summer, there will only be one RE activity each week, sent on Saturday evening.

Between Us.....reflections from Jill

We're nearly five months into our life in a pandemic. The virus is spreading, and more people are dying. Everyone wants to know how and when this will end. Most would like a simple answer. Some pretend it doesn't matter. Will the Fellowship ever get to meet again in our buildings? My answer to that is yes – we will! But not yet. Not in the foreseeable future.

These days of August are warm and beautiful, and we are blessed in so many ways. And for some, the weight of these months is feeling very heavy. We are more tired, in general. Simple things seem to take more effort. The usual ups and downs of daily living are more of a strain. Relationships are stressed. All of this makes sense – this is what it feels like to live in a pandemic. It does help to stay connected – please keep reaching out, finding ways to see friends (safely), asking for help when you need it.

I'm continually amazed and grateful at all the ways Fellowship members and friends are showing up and digging in to help make the many, many needed changes in our country and our world. Working on the coming elections, working on climate issues and sustainability, working on racism and oppression, learning more about the way things truly are, rethinking our habits and expectations, going deeper into our spiritual lives and practices. These are all signs of resilience. We are tired and we are resilient – both are true.

And, we are planning for Fall, for the Fellowship to move into a new church year with vigor and strength. Like the song says, “Gonna keep on moving forward, never turning back...” The world is new every day – and we are moving with it.

Pandemic Response

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August Sunday Offerings

Our August offerings support 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. To make a donation to the weekly offering, go the [UUFC web page](http://UUFC_web_page) and click on the "SUNDAY DONATIONS" button.

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.

Upcoming Sunday Services

August 16 – Rev. Monica Jacobson Tennesen “How the Story Ends”

August 23 – Rev. Fulgence Ndagijimana, founder of Flaming Chalice International, supporting African UU refugees and immigrants.

From Fellowship member Charlie Miller – perspectives on where we are now: “Social distancing, quarantining the healthy and masks work. (At our house) we have never been more microbiologically healthy. No colds or hints of colds for five months. No pneumonia. We don't have malaria, but that is because Anopheles is still south of us. It seems to be true of everyone we talk with - nobody who has kept to the regime has had a cold. And, none of them have come down with COVID-19. The flip side is that every place and every age-, social- and working-group *not* following the "rules" has kept the first wave from washing back out. I am sad for those who must work and face enhanced risks, especially healthcare workers whom "we" are torturing. I struggle to sympathize with the others.

I am encouraged by one piece of non-news. There has been very little said about second infections in those recovered. There are actual research results from Asia. In South Korea, 450 recovered victims later tested positive, but *none* of them got sick again. The time frame is short still, of course, but there is hope that immunity will last a while in many. So, there is also hope that some of the new vaccines will work.”

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 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 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has partnered with Benton County to host an event to distribute up to 10,000 KN95 masks, and hand-sanitizer. The masks are meant for consumer use and do not take away from supplies available to front line workers. Wearing masks has proven to be one of the most effective methods to protect people from the corona virus. This will be a drive-by event, Saturday, August 22, 2020, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, in the parking lot of the Corvallis LDS Stake, at 4141 NW Harrison Blvd. All in the community are welcome.

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*

Fellowship Connections

Thank you, thank you!

- ~ To Michael Hughes, Nick Houtman, Alan Kirk and Lloyd Wagenschutz for cleaning and repainting the Fellowship deck.
- ~ To Mary Anne Sellers and David Maxfield for hosting the Wednesday Coffee Hour, and to all who continue to attend to support each other.
- ~To Christine Robins for volunteering to host the Chronic Illness Support Group – watch for a new meeting date.
- ~To all who made contributions to the NAACP during July Sunday Services. Together we raised \$1451.00.

New Communication Platforms for the Fellowship Thank you to all who made suggestions about finding new and better ways to facilitate both discussions and connections during pandemic Fellowship life. Most likely, the current UU-Discuss listserv will be re-named and aimed more closely at sharing of community resources and needs (not necessarily Fellowship programs or events.) A new platform or platforms will be created to host important Fellowship conversations and discussions – this might use Slack or Canvas or some form of online bulletin board; all of these platforms make discussion threads easier to follow and summarize. Users of these platforms will agree to basic participation guidelines. As we launch these new platforms an open meeting will likely be held, to find out what discussions and conversations are most important between us now, and to talk about how to facilitate those conversations effectively.

UU Path: Introduction to Membership The next training and orientation session for becoming a member of the Fellowship will be held via Zoom on Monday, August 17, at 7 PM. Contact Elona Meyer if you are interested in joining: elonameyer@icloud.com.

Online Rummage Sale: What Will You Donate? The UUFC Reduce-Reuse-Recycle Extravaganza—our annual Rummage Sale—online this year for safety. The R3 Extravaganza will take place over a full week which provides ample time for UUs and the larger community to look over donations. The format will be an online auction, which is even more fun! The Extravaganza will run from **Monday, August 24 at 9:00 a.m. through Sunday, August 30 at 5:00 p.m.**

Please look through your garage or closets to find choice items you no longer want and are willing to donate. We are limiting donations to items worth at least \$15 at garage sale prices, and ask that items be clean and new or lightly used. Excluding low

cost items will make the online catalog a manageable size for folks to look through, and our team will have time to enter all items. Please donate now and often! **The deadline for donations is Friday, August 21.**

You can donate three ways:

1. Complete the form below and mail it to Judy or Bonnie at the addresses below
2. Complete the form and scan it and send it to Judy or Bonnie at the email addresses below.
3. Complete the form online at Online Donation Form RRR Event

With all three methods, text a picture of your donation to Judy or Bonnie or email a jpg photo to our email addresses. Call us if you have problems with this. Judy Westlake at judywestlake@comcast.net or 541-740-9457. Bonnie Morihara at moriharb@wou.edu or 503-383-5692

RE News for Fall: The UUFC Religious Exploration program is excited to partner with four 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 UUniversity. Online information sessions will be held in early September, so stay tuned for details!

A New Chance to Connect – Fridays, 4 PM, via zoom. Fellowship member and Care and Support Team leader David Maxfield will host a new weekly connection time for members and friends. "**Heart to Heart: UUFC conversations about what is moving inside us,**" will be an open, facilitated conversation about whatever needs to be talked about. If more than 6 people are present, break-out rooms will be used to allow smaller groups for more conversation. Each session will begin with a chalice lighting and brief check-in, and end with closing words. A zoom invitation will be sent via UU-Announce.

Indigenous Connections – A New Justice Team at the Fellowship On Thu 13 Aug at 4:00 PM, the Indigenous Connections team is hosting a one-session discussion, of "Six Native leaders on what it would look like if the US kept its promises" at <https://www.vox.com/first-person/2019/9/23/20872713/native-american-indian-treaties>. Jesse Ford will facilitate.

The team's next read will be Charles F. Wilkinson's *The People are Dancing Again: The History of the Siletz Tribe of Western Oregon*. Fellowship members and friends are invited and encouraged to participate in these upcoming discussions, and to get on the distribution list by email (Subject: Indigenous Connections) to michael.a.hughes1951@gmail.com.

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.

Fellowship Weekly Calendar

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.

~**NEW: 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

Looking forward to the beginning of a new church year in September, you're invited to keep these dates in mind:

~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.

Black Lives Matter

Two articles by Ibram X. Kendi, in *The Atlantic* this month – well worth reading:
“The End of Denial,” and “We do not want our freedom gradually,” (*Patience Is A Dirty Word*)

Resources available on the UUFC Website. Information on the Black Lives Matter movement, and anti-racism in general, has been posted on the Fellowship website and continues to be updated: <https://uucorvallis.org/black-lives-matter-movement/>

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

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.

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