UUFC - A Sabbatical Guide

In her ninth year of service to our congregation, our Senior Minister, Rev. Jill McAllister, is taking a short sabbatical from April 18 through August 21, 2022.

What is a Ministerial Sabbatical?

The sabbatical leave is a tradition for Unitarian Universalist clergy. Given that a typical ministerial work week is 48 to 60 hours, most UU ministers are granted, by contract, a month of sabbatical leave for each year worked, up to six months at a time. A sabbatical leave offers an extended time for rest, reflection, renewal, study, and contemplation – all needed for sustainable and effective ministry.

A ministerial sabbatical leave is also a good opportunity for congregation members to join in shared ministry by working together, sharing their own insights and skills, and getting to know one another better. Both congregation and minister can benefit, returning from sabbatical time with new energy. During this time Jill is generally not available for Fellowship work or questions. In the case of an emergency, however, such as the death of a member, the Board president and staff will always be able to contact her.

The Sabbatical Planning Team

The Sabbatical Planning Team has developed a coordinated plan for managing Fellowship life during the sabbatical. They have worked with Jill to create a list of everything (!) that needs to be covered while she is gone – focusing primarily on her usual tasks and responsibilities. Those tasks and responsibilities have been assigned to our supporting ministers and to Fellowship staff and leaders.

Shared Ministry

As always, the Board of Directors and staff, plus all of the Fellowship’s councils, teams and committees share responsibility for our ongoing operations and programs. In addition, we have a circle of supporting ministers and consultants. All of this is our Shared Ministry.
Who To Contact When You Have Questions

Board of Directors
Steve Strauss, President – steve.strauss@oregonstate.edu

Sabbatical Planning Team
Carl Engligh-Young – cey544@yahoo.com
Bonnie Morihara – moriharb@wou.edu
Jamie Petts – office@uucorvallis.org
Rev. Monica Jacobson Tennessen – monicadt@gmail.com

Supporting Ministers
Rev. Leslie Chartier – revchartier@gmail.com
Rev. Monica Jacobson Tennessen – monicadt@gmail.com
Chaplain Jesse Ford – jessicand22@gmail.com
Rev. Lois Van Leer – ivanjeer@uuma.org

Church Operations Manager
Jamie Petts – office@uucorvallis.org, for communication, weekly announcements and newsletters, meeting and event scheduling, building use and building rental

Business, Finance, Stewardship
Jean Gilbert – businessmgr@uucorvallis.org
Russ Karow, Financial Oversight Council – russel.karow@oregonstate.edu

Religious Exploration
Rachel Kohler, Director – REassociate@uucorvallis.org
Skyla Christison – mommaskyla@gmail.com
for family support, all-ages classes and study groups, Wheel of the Year, youth activities
Pastoral care and support are provided by the Fellowship Care and Support Team and many volunteers, as usual. If you need, or know of Fellowship member who needs, someone to talk to about a religious or spiritual question or problem or a life transition, you can call on these supporters. If you need, or another Fellowship person you know needs, a visit, food delivered due to illness or injury or family transition, transportation to church or a medical appointment, you can call on these folks for help. For any and all of these needs, please call on one of our Care and Support Team Coordinators – MaryAnne Sellers and Sandy Piper.
Rev. Monica Jacobson Tennessen – monicadt@gmail.com

The Worship Team has overall responsibility for Sunday services during the sabbatical, with coordination by Rev. Monica Jacobson Tennessen, and support from Director of Music David Servias and the Wheel of the Year worship team, Sunday house managers, and tech support volunteers.

The schedule of Sunday Services is varied and diverse. Guest speakers include members and friends of the Fellowship, UU and other ministers, and community leaders.

Five Fellowship members will take turns hosting the services. Kirtan will continue on Friday evenings.

Kitzie Stern – kitstern@gmail.com

We are planning a hybrid format for this major fundraising event for the Fellowship. We will hold a live auction of services complete with hors d'oeuvres and beverages and an auctioneer on the deck and patio. Date: TBD in mid-June. Most of the goods will be auctioned online over a one-week period in mid-June. Do you have a cottage or vacation house you could donate for a weekend (or longer)? A special meal you could deliver or host outside this summer? Yard work, weeding, pruning, planting, painting, organizing, pressure washing, bicycle tuning, hiking, or any other service you can offer? Be thinking of what you can donate. We need your help. Contact: Bonnie Morihara – moriharb@wou.edu

Planning ahead...

There are plenty of other possibilities for spring and summer activities - help us plan! A July potluck supper? A parking lot rummage sale? Some version of the Labor Day Tuna Roast? Let’s see what new ways there are to gather....