



The Chalice and the Flame

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

A Monthly Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem, OR

July 2021

Results of the Congregational Meeting 2021



At the June 13 annual meeting held via Zoom, the Treasurer confirmed that a quorum was present. The slates of Board Officers and Directors and Nominating Committee candidates were approved. The budget recommended by the Board was approved as presented. The land lease agreement between UUCS and Habitat and Hope Village was not yet available. The Congregation voted for a continuance. The board will present the agreement for review and approval by the congregation at a later date. For complete details of the slate of officers, budget, and supporting documents, see the [Congregational Meeting, June 13, 2021 page](#) on our website.

Building Now Open for UUCS Group and Team Use

The Re-opening Task Force is happy to announce that our building is now open for use by our teams and groups. We've closely monitored our re-opening for Sunday services and are happy with its success. Now that the state of Oregon has reduced many restrictions for in-person gatherings, we are prepared to also open our building. The task force realizes that the guidelines suggested below will not be adequate for all individuals. Some people may feel safer remaining home until a later time. For the rest of the congregation, we are assuming you are willing to accept the personal risk of being together inside. Note that if Marion County returns to the Extreme Risk Level or a potential exposure or outbreak within UUCS occurs, all onsite meetings will be canceled until the risk level is lowered or until we deem it safe to resume.

See the Building Use Guidelines for Teams and Groups on [Page 8](#). Guidelines for building use by community groups and rentals, to begin in September, are being prepared.

~Submitted by Christine Ertl, Board representative of the Re-opening Task Force



One Service at 10:30 – Registration Still Required

Based on attendance and building safety protocols, we have moved to one service at 10:30 am, which will continue through the summer. RE for children will also be held every Sunday at this time.

Check out the new reopening guidelines on [Page 8](#). Registration to attend the service is still required in order to provide COVID tracing information. [Click here to register](#) both adults and children for services. Call the UUCS office at 503-364-0932 if you need help registering. Staff is available onsite Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.

Connections Groups Coming Soon

Everyone is invited to join a Connections Group! These groups will meet monthly from September through June. We'll start out with the meetings just on Zoom until there is a safe alternative. Connections Groups offer a positive and supportive way to explore our lives while we connect and get to know each other. There will be a topic for discussion each month. A few of the topics for the coming year are Embracing Possibilities, Cultivating Relationships, Holding History, and Opening to Joy.

The choices for group meeting times are the second Tuesday at 6:30 pm, the second Wednesday at 6:00 pm, the third Wednesday at 10:00 am, the third Wednesday at 4:00 pm and the second Thursday at 10:30 am.

Look for the sign-up notice that will be posted soon. If you have any questions or concerns about signing up, the UUCS office staff will gladly assist you.



Reverential Ramblings

~ Rev. Richard Davis, UUCS's minister

My favorite childhood recollections are of summertime, when my friends and I had whole days to roam and explore as far as our legs and bicycles would take us, which was quite far since we had a whole day to get there and back. There were few expectations to be met—no summer school or organized activities or onerous chores—just long stretches of time to do as we wished. We were free range kids. Sometimes we did foolish things, but mostly it was good fun; not having adult supervision expanded our options considerably.

The earliest days of summer were so blissful. Freedom from the pressures of school allowed my spirit to soar like a kite in the wind. These days my joy in this season is no less—especially since we live in such a beautiful part of the world. Even as it was in my youth, my life slows down in the summer, and I feel freer to “loaf and invite my soul” as the poet Walt Whitman put it.

After this past year it'll be good to pause and just enjoy life as it is—now that the oppressive heat wave has passed! That was hot! What a relief that cooler temperatures have returned. Let's hope we can stay out of triple digit temperatures for the rest of the summer. Even if we do, these extreme record-breaking temperatures are a disturbing reminder of the challenges posed by global climate change.

It's hard not to allow awareness of the daunting challenges we face to suck the sweet nectar out of daily life. Yet, living day by day with a cloud of gloom hanging over your head is not going to make you happier, nor the world a better place. And, near the end of your life, you may well regret the days you needlessly spent under that cloud of gloom. So, I remind myself to cherish the precious unrepeatable moments. Summer is a good season for such enjoyment, especially in Oregon. I do hope you get a chance to get out some if you can. Maybe go to hike next to the Metolius River or up on Mt. Hood or in the Columbia Gorge. Maybe kayak on Clear Lake or go to the lovely coast, which I'm told is to the west of here (it's been a while for me). Or maybe drive the back roads through wine country and u-pick orchards.

This is a summer of return—the pandemic is slowly winding down and we are slowly beginning to reenter our common life activities—worship, concerts, theatres, the restaurants and coffee shops and bars, festivals—all those things that bring us so much enrichment and pleasure. Signs are that we will continue along this happy path as more people continue to get vaccinated. May your summer be joyful as we re-engage.

This past year and a half has been challenging for religious communities, and we have risen to the challenges, but not without some pain and loss. Now we have an opportunity to reengage in person, as we are slowly beginning to do. In a sense it will be the beginning of a new era—the post-pandemic era.

As we turn the page from one chapter to the next and prepare to fully engage in the fall, we plan to open the doors for new energy and enthusiasm in support of our shared ministry. We want to have good options for members and friends to be of service, whether it's joining a team or committee or agreeing to serve in particular ways during the year. Stay tuned for more information about that.

So, I hope you do find ways to restore your soul and recreate. We have so much to look forward to in the fall when we can come and restore old connections and create new ones.

Love,
Rick



Lifespan Religious Education

~ Lily Walker, Director, Lifespan Religious Education

“In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.” John Muir

I've been watching *A French Village*. It's a historical fiction series that has been gaining in popularity recently, set during WW2 during the German occupation. My mom, who started a new job working at the Silverton Library, tells me that they can't keep the series on the shelves! People are constantly coming in looking for the videos because only certain seasons are available with your Amazon Prime subscription. People are getting “hooked” on *A French Village*, and then heading out to their local libraries in a desperate search to find the missing seasons (especially during the recent heat wave!).

The series is really well done, but I think the rise in popularity of this series is at least partially due to the resonance of the series' themes and images with our life experience after the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Imagine the scene: a family returning home after WW2 has ended to an old house commandeered by the Germans during the occupation of France. In your mind you may see things like papers strewn on the floor, holes knocked in walls, broken windows and floor tiles, overturned furniture, a barren garden and empty food cellar and an unbridled milk cow that needs to be brought back to the pasture.

I imagine that the first order of business in a situation like this might be a roll call of family, friends and associates and determining if everyone is okay, and what needs there may be for the health and happiness of our loved ones. Once the needs of our loved ones have been attended to, there may be a period of both mourning and celebration. Recognition of loss and celebration of joy, likely with a renewed sense of gratitude for the most beautiful and simple things in life — things we may have previously been taking for granted, and now realize how dear and essential they are to our experience of happiness and abundance in life. After tasks such as these have been completed, the time eventually comes to take stock, account for losses and make plans to rebuild.

In our current times we hear the words “build back better”, and I am finding correspondence with these words in my own life — in friendship groups, work routines, school programs, community engagement — and also within the RE Program at the church. There are aspects of the program that remind me of returning to an old home after the war — broken windows, disorder, and challenges to health and vitality. To everything there is a season, and it seems that, in some ways, it is currently the season for rebuilding after catastrophe.

The honest truth is that the RE program needs your help in order to Build Back, and especially to Build Back better. We need the people and elders of the church to show up with offers to help bring vitality back to the program by sharing their passions, gifts, hobbies and interests with the children. We need families, children, and the elders who love them to show up, and to want to be there, so that we have vitality, not only for ourselves, but also to share with the wider community. It is an important time to strengthen our ministry based on UU Values for children and youth. Doing so helps us to answer our mission to heal a hurting world. The RE Program needs your contribution to thrive.

This summer, we will be exploring our UU Values using the Play the Forest School Way curriculum, written by Jane Worroll. The children are going to set up camp down in Bateman Woods and build an area to meet and learn together each week. The curriculum I have chosen to use is full of really neat games, crafts and activities. It's a beautiful collection that celebrates the 7th Principal: respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. It is also very play-centered and fun.

All of the materials are there to create a rich and vibrant offering for children and youth this summer — the church, the steeple, and the OPEN DOORS...what we need now is YOU, the people.

A few of the opportunities to help out this summer, involving a 15–20-minute commitment, are 1. Lead campfire songs; 2. Lead a plant-walk to help us identify edible plants; 3. Explain maps and cartography; 4. Lead bird-watching or help identify local animals; 5. Lead games; 6. Help lead crafts; 7. Anything you feel called to offer.

The subject of volunteer recruitment is an issue the wider congregation will be working on with the help of the Team Council as we move toward the 2021-22 program year. The RE Department will continue to think of ways to extend the invitation for you to participate and welcomes your unique contributions! If you have some time this summer or next fall to offer the children of UUCS please reach out to Lily Walker at_dre@uusalem.org. I look forward to helping to figure out ways to bring your gift to the children!

As of July 4, we have one service at 10:30 am. Children will go to the sanctuary with their parents, and then to RE after the Chalice Lighting and Time For All Ages portion of the service.

More Happenings and Highlights

Building Access Codes Have Changed

Our building access key codes were changed June 29. If you need access to the key code boxes and have not already filled out a new form, you will need to do so. Forms are available in the printer room or [online through this link](#). Completed forms can be left in the office mailbox or emailed to office@uusalem.org. After review, staff can call you during office hours with the new codes. Codes are given to individuals and cannot be shared or transmitted via email or text. The office staff is available onsite Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.

Women's Group Fundraiser

The UUCS Women's Group and Retreat is still collecting returnable bottles and cans. Funds raised will be used to provide scholarships for our next retreat. The fundraising is done through Bottle Drop. More information and collection bags are available from Janet Stevens, uuwomensgroup@uusalem.org.

Behind the Chalice

Do you know what happens when you combine days of increasing heat, Question and Answer Sunday and the UUCS Virtual Choir? A lot of hot air? No, no...bad joke, bad joke. What you get is a very cool ending of the 2020-2021 church year! However, the projector apparently thought the whole thing was a little too hot to handle and quit three-quarters of the way through the service. So, Reverend Rick now has lots of cool ideas upon which to draw new sermons starting in the fall.

The lazy days of summer are definitely upon us—I mean if 117 degrees doesn't slow you down, nothing will! Yet, those pure of heart souls behind the chalice continue to strive to bring you ever inspiring Sunday Services once each Sunday at 10:30. This summer has some real hot spots coming from our own congregational members as well as having our dear friend Rev. Mark Gallagher gracing the pulpit. If you want to find out more, come attend or watch us online!

Oh, you may have noticed the yellow gigantic ladder type thing in the Sanctuary. No, that is not the stairway to heaven, it is just the Facility Team fixing lights and helping to install...wait for it: the...lights for the cameras *and* ...the Pivot Zoom Tilt cameras! Yes, they have all arrived; isn't it amazing!

So, come hear our too-hot-to-handle, yet "cool" Sunday service speakers this summer. Starting July 11, you can chat about it in our fellowship hall! No, we still have to wait for coffee to return; but do stay and chat a while.

We remain yours in service, from Behind the Chalice.

~Sara Pickett

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION: to subscribe to *The Chalice and the Flame* monthly newsletter, email your request to the UUCS office at office@uusalem.org and include your full name and email address. If you are a pledging member and want to receive a printed copy of the newsletter in the mail, also include a physical address.

News of the Community

We are sad to report the passing of longtime member **Marion Dearman**. A memorial service in his honor will be held at UUCS at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 31.

Marion was born and grew up in rural northeast Oklahoma, the son of tenant farmers. He was the first boy, the fourth child in a family of eleven children. Although he was raised in the Pentecostal religion, he said he could never remember believing the way his family did, even though he tried. He left home at age fifteen, never completing even one year of high school, to learn the printing trade in Okema, Oklahoma. That trade came in handy for him for years to come. He was drafted into WWII and sent to Nuremberg, Germany, where he served on the Army newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*. After returning home, Marion earned a GED and attended Oklahoma University for a year but decided to become a tramp printer, living and working as one in too many cities to mention.

After that he returned to college, attending San Jose City College, then graduated from San Jose State with great distinction while working full time as a printer. The University of Oregon offered him a full fellowship, and he earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Sociology there before being hired by California State University, Los Angeles. Coincidentally, he was a printer for 25 years and a professor for 25 years.

He married in the 1950s and had two children, but the marriage ended. He married again in the 1960s, adopting a daughter, but that marriage ended too. In 1982, he married Sharon, taking on three stepsons who credit him for becoming the fine men they are today.

Marion became a Unitarian when he learned of it in the 1960's, becoming a member of UUCS in January 1995 when he and Sharon moved to Salem. After a life of excellent health, he started having health problems when he turned 90, resulting in declining abilities. However, two weeks before his death he still could answer a question or two on Jeopardy.

June is the traditional month of weddings, so there are anniversaries to celebrate. Just to mention two long time ones, **Harriet Trill and Glen Kaye** celebrated their 59th anniversary on June 17. The next day **Elsa and I** celebrated our 66th.

As we leave the COVID restrictions behind, we will enjoy more family gatherings. **Deborah Emeny** was expecting her two daughters for an extended visit. She writes that she is "over the moon with happiness!!!" (Such visits mean more to us this year than usual. Please write me about your own family gatherings so everyone can rejoice with you.)

Since the initial information about forming End of Life Choices (Oregon), aka EOLCOR, was presented at UUCS one Sunday several years ago, the Salem team of the statewide organization has been composed of our members **Margrethe Gregg** and **Steve Rosen**, co-chairs, and **Karen Piter**, **Eric Schuman**, **Joel Woodman**, and **Joan Erickson**. Joan explains the UUCS presence: "No reason, perhaps, except that the organization and our church are a 'good fit.' Both stand firmly for individual rights and reliance on science and more, far more." Each team member mentioned here has a history of community service in the helping professions, and almost all are retired.

Joan asks us to spread the word about EOLCOR and the services it provides people in this part of the Willamette Valley. EOLCOR split off from Compassion and Choices to opt out of some of the work of lobbying, fund-raising, and publicity. Group members are ready to meet with community groups, not for fund-raising, but for dissemination of information about the availability of direct service to clients. One important note is that the service is free to clients and available to anyone with a diagnosis of less than six months to live.

Both of Hanneman Hall's restrooms are sporting new floors, thanks to **Steve Ovens** having noticed their state of disrepair and acting on it! Take a look for yourself and find an opportunity to let Steve know you appreciate his volunteer spirit and craftsmanship!

As always, I invite you all to tell me about events in your lives that could be of interest to other congregation members. Also, tell me about things you know about others who might not think to tell me themselves. I'm usually one of the last to know what's going on, so I need your help!

~George Struble.

Social Justice News

Social Justice Survey Summary

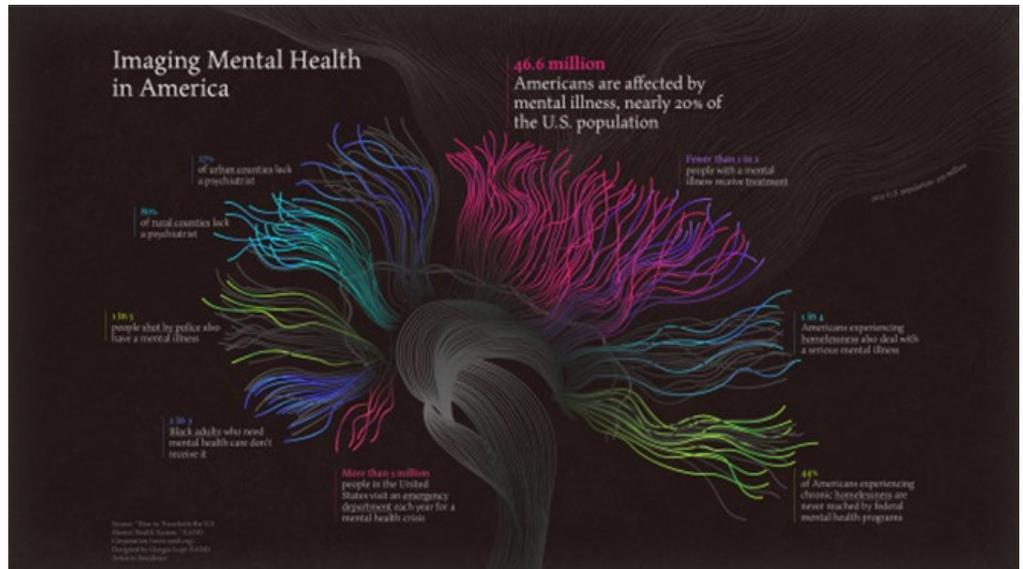
Thirty-one people took the social justice survey and social justice was important to all of the respondents. The majority of respondents (54.8%) said UUCS should provide services locally to those needing help, and 45.2% said we should provide services locally and work to resolve national, global social injustices. No one said we should focus solely on resolving national global social injustices. The survey asked respondents to prioritize national and global social justice issues, captured suggestions on what UUCS can do to make a difference at a national or global level and how we can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors. After the results are reviewed, we will share what we learned. A big thanks to the Communications Team for their efforts to publicize the survey – it made a big difference.

Cordon Road Cleanup

The bi-annual road clean-up was a success in early June. Several UU congregants arrived on June 6 and worked for about three hours picking up trash along a section of Cordon Road. Social Justice co-chair, Jack Tally gathered supplies for the clean-up from the county. The roadside beautification crew worked their way from Center Street up toward State Street. Twelve bags of garbage were collected. The bi-annual project functions as a way to beautify the roadside near the church, build fellowship and give back to the community. Thank you to all who chipped-in for this event. The autumn roadside beautification day will be announced in September.

Mental Health and Social Justice

I've been watching the Apple TV+ series *The Me You Don't See*. It features individuals discussing how mental illness affected them and its cause. The hosts of the program, Oprah Winfrey and Prince Harry, discuss their experiences with mental illness. The mental illnesses covered include depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) and schizophrenia. Some of the people featured had mental illnesses such as OCD and schizophrenia that emerged as they got older while for others, including Oprah and Prince Harry, mental illnesses were triggered by events, such as an untimely death or abuse, in their lives. Mental illnesses triggered by external events are of particular interest since they can be triggered by adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). If a child experiences enough ACEs the resulting trauma changes their brain's structure. Research has shown an extraordinarily strong correlation between childhood trauma and illness: lack of academic success, going to prison, failed relationships and mental illness. The 6 segments of *The Me You Can't See* also shows how mental illness impacts those close to people with mental illness.



Mental illness is not an obvious social justice issue. The illustration above, from a [Rand Corporation report on transforming mental health in America](#) shows the relationship between social justice issues and mental illnesses.

Those affected by mental illness include:

- 2 in 3 black adults, who need mental health care but don't receive it.
- 1 in 5 people shot by police.
- 1 in 4 Americans experiencing homelessness.

More than 1 in 10 people who are incarcerated have a mental illness. This is approximately 10 times more than the number of beds in mental hospitals.

In 2017 46.6 million Americans, nearly 20% of the population, were affected by mental illness. Yet, fewer than 1 in 2 people with a mental illness receive treatment. If the lack of and expense of healthcare is seen as a social justice issue, then mental health should also be a social justice issue.

~John Prohodsky

Update from Habitat and Hope Village

It is with an increased sense of urgency as well as an emphasis on careful planning that A Women's Shelter of Hope, the transitional housing shelter planned for UUCS property, is moving closer to becoming a reality.

Unsheltered living during summer weather—even record-breaking heat—is slightly less perilous than during our cold, wet winters. Still, an increasing number of our neighbors face life on the street as they struggle to find and remain in permanent housing.

Recent Milestones: The Mid-Willamette Community Action Agency (ARCHES) is evaluating the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between it and Habitat and Hope Village, Inc. (HHV). Meanwhile, the HHV Board is reviewing the draft "Land Lease, Construction, and Operations Agreement" recently submitted by the UUCS Board. Roughly \$100,000 has already been pledged for construction. Fundraising for the remaining construction budget plus three years of operation will begin after a lease agreement is reached and then approved by the congregation. Most of that \$400,000 is expected to come from individual contributors within Salem and Marion County with hoped-for additional support to come from local businesses and community foundations.

HHV is asking members and friends of UUCS to help by providing names and contact information for organizations and individuals who can assist. Send email to HHV at habitatandhopevillage@gmail.com.

Splinters from the Board

Shout out to Women's Alliance!

The Facilities Team has begun the long-awaited project of replacing the kitchen floor. However, to proceed it was necessary that funds first be in place; so, our Women's Alliance stepped up with a \$5,000 contribution! (Women's Alliance is one of the long-standing ministries of our congregation and has often supported our building and grounds.) The UUCS Board authorized the expenditure of up to \$4,500 from the Maintenance Reserves to complete the project, which began at the end of June and will be completed within a few weeks.

General Assembly Delegates

The Board is responsible for appointing General Assembly (GA) delegates, but currently there is no policy or bylaws direction on how to select them. Also, there is no current policy stating whether delegates represent the UUCS or their own conscience in voting at GA. So, the board decided that, without a discernment process on this matter, voting decisions at the 2021 GA would be based on the delegates' own conscience. Reverend Rick planned to meet with our delegates to review the GA agenda and to discuss how the delegates might represent UUCS. The Board approved the following qualifications for selection of persons to serve as a UUCS delegate:

- A voting member of the congregation;
- Institutional knowledge or longevity with UUCS; and
- Be a part of leadership or have active involvement in UUCS.

Five members were selected to be our delegates this year: Joel Martin, Barbara Stebbins-Boaz, Bob Muir, George Struble and Elsa Struble. Look for a report of 2021 GA decisions in a future newsletter.

Break-ins

In a break-in on June 14, items were stolen from the UUCS shed and the Kaleidoscope yurts. Also, the UUCS mailbox was broken into a few weeks earlier. Board members shared lots of ideas about how to make our property more secure, including installing more cameras and possibly locking the gate to the parking lot. The Security Committee will make recommendations to the Board on these issues. The Board expressed gratitude for the Landscape Committee who rapidly restored the shed to its protected state.

Partial Reopening of UUCS Space for Meetings

The Reopening Team reported its plans to reopen the UUCS building to UUCS Teams beginning in July and to community groups in September. The Reopening Team is creating building use guidelines for COVID safety and staff are preparing all the various spaces to be available at the start of the new church year in September. (See those guidelines elsewhere in this newsletter.) Also discussed were use of rooms, the sanctuary and fellowship hall relating to rentals. The Fundraising Committee is evaluating our current rental agreements to align building use with rental fees for non-profits. They will submit a policy to the Finance Team for approval, which will then go to the Board for a vote.

~Christine Ertl, Board Chair

Building Use Guidelines for Teams & Groups

Groups or Teams Must Have a Leader. Each group or team must assign a group leader. The leader is the person who will request the building meeting space. The leader will need to check with Congregational Administrator Emma Kreger, for access to the building and lock-up information. The group leader will also receive building use instructions or guidelines. The group leader will agree to be responsible for ensuring each person who will enter the building is given all guidelines and agrees to any and all policies in advance. This includes making sure that *all* group or team participants fill out the Contact Tracing form for their scheduled time. At the end of the meeting, before arming the system if the group leader is locking the building, the group leader should leave the completed Contact Tracing forms in a plain envelope in the workroom Office inbox. The forms should be checked to confirm that the information is complete, and date and times are included. Beginning and end times are needed so any possible exposures can be tracked. Group leader must ensure that all group members stay compliant while on site and ensure lock up procedures are followed.

Allow Participants to Attend by Zoom if They Wish. As a community that values inclusion and collective care, we do not want to create in-person situations that inadvertently exclude those at higher risk or create situations that force those at higher risk to publicly identify themselves. All team leaders must bring a laptop, smartphone or tablet and offer a Zoom link and open Zoom for meetings to all members so they may choose to participate remotely. Do not ask why or pressure members to meet in person. Simply ask each person how they will attend so that the proper room can be reserved, and the link can be sent to those who need it.

Use the Form to Reserve a Room. Different events require different forms to be completed on the website. [Check this weblink](#) for an explanation of the various forms. Once you are ready to reserve a room for your event, complete the online [Event Scheduling form](#). Email office@uusalem.org once the Event Scheduling form is completed, to confirm your event can be scheduled. Your group *must* be scheduled with the office and approved for entry and use.

All Who Enter Must Complete a COVID Questionnaire and Use Masks. All persons entering the building, whether participating in a group or team or coming individually, must provide full name, valid phone number, and answer the COVID Screening Questions in the Contact Tracing binder located in the foyer. This information is for the purpose of contact tracing only. All persons entering our building must wear a mask at all times unless they are under 5 years of age or have a valid, documented medical exemption.

Additional Guidelines Should Be Observed. Singing, dancing, or use of wind instruments are not allowed. The kitchen is not available for use and no food or drink is allowed during your event. Only personal water bottles may be used. Please ensure your container has a lid that is spill and leak proof. Groups must leave at the agreed upon time, to ensure the appropriate time between groups has lapsed so that air is circulated for COVID safety.

Building Use Guidelines for Sunday Services

Everyone who attends a service must RSVP each time, to help with contact tracing. However there are no attendance limits, and social distance seating will be optional. Masks will be required. ASL will be available if you request it when you register. How to RSVP

You must answer the COVID screening questions at entry and confirm your information for contact tracing, but no temperatures will be taken.

Children will start in the sanctuary and leave for Religious Education classes after the Chalice Lighting and the Time for All Ages portion of the service.

Other COVID precautions include no printed Order of Service, collection baskets available at entry and exit rather than passed during service, and no singing. Hand sanitizer will be available.

After service, there will be fellowship hour in Hanneman Hall, but no food or drink will be served until at least September.

The service will be live-streamed at 10:30 Sundays, and will be available later online as a "Past Service" with closed captions added later in the week. Check service block on the home page of our website for these links.

Worship Services and Religious Education

Sunday Services and LRE

10:30 am
(Live-streamed)

Fellowship Time

After Service!
(beginning July 11)

July Share the Plate Recipient: [Oregon Black Pioneers](#)

Sunday, July 11

The Rev. Mark Gallagher

"Living With Mortality"

Music: Kit Abrahamson and Laura Christian
Cello duets: Kit Abrahamson & George Struble

Awareness that our time of life is limited can be a source of anxiety, or a source of heightened appreciation.

Sunday, July 18

Brenna Norval

"My Life's Work"

Celebrant: Sara Pickett
Music (with Special Music): Kit Abrahamson and Laura Christian

Sunday, July 25

Sara Pickett

"Grief is the Portal of the Soul"

Celebrant: Barbara Stebbins-Boaz
Music: Kit Abrahamson and Laura Christian
Recorder Quartet: Jon Chinburg, Kit Abrahamson, Loriann Schmidt, Laura Christian

Sometimes we learn the most about ourselves and our connection with others through loss—particularly when it is through the loss of a loved one. How does our spirituality connect with this idea, and does it allow for transformation?

Current Services Information:

- One service at 10:30 am. RSVP required
- Fellowship Hour following service
- Children begin service in sanctuary, leaving for LRE as usual

Unitarian Universalist Congregation Of Salem

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This issue was edited by Bob Muir with help from Sharon Pierson, Vicki Cunningham, and Elsa Struble. Final formatting completed by S. Pierson.

EVENT SCHEDULING: use the [Event Scheduling Request](#) form on the UUCS website to add your event to the UUCS calendar and/or reserve a UUCS space.

PUBLICITY and ANNOUNCEMENTS: Fill out the [Publication Request](#) form on the UUCS website for any announcement, event or news item. This form is a one-stop place to put a notice in the monthly newsletter, the UUCS website, the *This Week* email and/or Facebook.

DEADLINES:

Newsletter: The deadline for the **next** newsletter is 8:00 pm on Friday, **July 30, 2021.**

This Week submissions are due by **Wed.** noon.