



Mid-Columbia Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
www.mcuuf.org

***There will be no monthly Newsletter in April.
The eNews will be sent out weekly to provide up-to-date information.***

SUNDAY SERVICES

The theme for March is “God/The Divine”

April 5th: “A Brief History of Gospel Music,” a virtual Zoom service with Dan B.

The history of gospel music goes back several hundred years, giving hope and comfort to those living under desperate circumstances. It has mirrored the predicaments of groups of people, reflected social status, and eventually reverberated in people’s minds that God is indeed on everyone’s side. After hundreds of years, the sound of gospel music is still captivating because it stands against a background of today’s social problems and dilemmas. Let’s come together in our virtual Zoom meeting space to hear about early and recent gospel artists and what shaped their artistic lives. And we’ll listen to a few gospel tunes to ease our minds during these challenging times.

This Sunday, press Control and click on the following link to join the service:

<https://zoom.us/j/5766687820>

You can also go to zoom.us, click “Join a Meeting,” and enter this ID: 576 668 7820

This Zoom service will be formatted so that participants can see and be seen by all those attending. So be sure to wear your best smile!

Minister’s Message

It has been over a week now since the governors of Washington and Oregon issued orders to stay at home. Three out of four Americans live in a state with a similar order, and everything has been turned upside down. It’s as though we’re living in an Alice in Wonderland world. What makes this harder is that we don’t know how long these orders will be in effect. Living with that uncertainty is hard.

Efforts to stem the spread of the COVID-19 virus deny one of the very things that can help us cope with stress: the touch and company of each other. This adds to the adjustments we must make when the rhythms of our lives get disrupted. The discomfort we feel is a reminder to be gentle with ourselves and each other. We’re in transition. To say we’re at a new normal is premature. We can count on things changing next week.

Our commitment to one another in our intentional religious community won’t change. In these past few weeks I’ve witnessed myriad ways that we have been there for each other and our wider community. Volunteers, leaders and staff continue to step up in new and creative ways. We will continue to have Sunday services and religious exploration, offering comfort and ways to make meaning of these unprecedented times. And we will continue to develop new ways to gather outside of online Sunday service.

These times make us aware of the preciousness of human relationships. May the practice of social distancing move us to tend connections among us and widen our circles of care.

With love,

Rev. Judy



Drop-In Coffee Hour, Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m. on Zoom: Click on <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/2459479513>. To join by telephone: [+16699006833](tel:+16699006833) then type 2459479513# when prompted

Religious Exploration

(At home) Update

Hello MCUUF Families (and others)! I hope you can all find time this week to come together, center yourself, and explore your faith. As we jump into Earth Month this week, we're going to focus on the theme of Mother Earth. These activities are geared towards younger kiddos, but I invite all to reflect on the theme as well.

Here's the link to this week's activities (you may have to copy and paste into your browser): https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oVUKHWuWgnKsXVOj85N_mAXmpeVLigUU8-UYgiksZMY/edit?usp=sharing

Though we need to be apart right now, it is important that we continue showing our community that we care. There are many in our community who may be feeling especially alone if they are separated from loved ones. We would **love** if you could **create notes or drawings for the older folks in our community**. These can be dropped off at any time at the Rockford Grange. Thank you to those that did so this week!

Thinking of you all!

Peace,

Liz
Religious Exploration Coordinator

Online Small Groups at MCUUF



We have ways of continuing the connections that are made when we meet for online worship. Seeing one another and being together can happen when small groups meet on Zoom. You can chat by telephone or Zoom.

Small-group leaders will get training in how to use Zoom. Our congregation's Zoom account will host the meeting. Some suggested small groups might be: Parenting Support Chat; Children's Chat (adult moderated); Music Makers & Singers Chat; Koffee Klatch; Meaningful Mondays Group; Humanists Happy Hour; Knitters, Crafters, and Quilters; Poetry Potpourri; Earth Spirit Study Group. Propose what you'd like to offer.

If you would like to lead a group, please contact Rev. Judy 503-970-0564 or jjzimmerman@uuma.org

Our Service Auction Party for May 2 has been postponed. Service donations are still welcome, and we will continue to write up existing and new donations, contacting donors if needed

with questions and clarifications so we'll be "ready to party" as soon as we can safely reschedule in the fall. Stay well out there.

Cancellation: Please note that the SOLVE Beach Clean-Up sponsored by the Mt. Hood Cluster of UU Congregations, originally scheduled for March 28, has been rescheduled for July 5. That way we can collect trash on the beach in the sunshine rather than in the rain!



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Curious about what's happening, when and where? Go to www.mcuuf.org

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Just send an e mail to mcuuf1@gmail.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

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The deadline for inclusion in the weekly eNews is midnight (11:59 p.m.) Monday. The MCUUF Newsletter comes out on the first Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise announced).

The deadline for inclusion is midnight of the prior Monday.

Please send your announcements to Brad at mcuuf1@gmail.com