



## Our New Normal?

Rev. Rosemary Morrison, Interim Minister

**H O P E**  
**HOLD ON, PAIN ENDS.**

### Minister's Reflection...

Here's what keeps me up at night:

- What is church going to look like after all this is over?
- Will we lose members to the virus?
- How can we prepare for the change that is upon us and yet to come?

I don't have answers for any of these questions...yet! I keep reading, and yes, praying that people are safe, fed, free from illness, and are continuing to find new ways to be kind. While I don't have any answers, I do know one thing, we'll listen to the scientists to determine the best course of action before we do anything. Another thing we know, pandemics don't last forever. At some point, things will begin to get back to "normal." I take that back! "Normal" isn't something I cherish going back to! Normal in this age has been overtaken by consumerism and greed. I hope this virus will at least teach us these two simple yet immense lessons; that people are more important than profits and that we need the earth to be healthy.

The congregation has never been about the building, and we have discovered, that as much as we long to be together, we can stay connected with one another through online platforms. This strange situation will not last forever, and yet we will forever be changed. People who thought they would never be able to figure out zoom or social media are joining in with gusto. Beautiful new connections are being

made, and people are finding online allows them to more fully participate. Unfortunately, some are left out and it is all of our work to discover who they are and how to include them.

You are doing well, even though it is incredibly hard sometimes. So much is being asked of us at this time. We are now having to figure out how to work from home while teaching school and having all family members trapped inside their homes. The pressure is real, the frustrations are real, and the threat is real.

Let's look out for one another; make a call, drop a line, or send an email. Also, you could get on the UU Facebook Discussion Page and let us know how you are doing through pictures, stories, and conversation. You are not alone, we have each other and remember this is not forever. I read this somewhere: 'We are missing each other now so that when we get together in person, we won't be missing anyone.' Let's keep each other safe and healthy by practicing physical distancing while keeping socially and soulfully intact.

Please reach out if you are having difficulty coping right now. My email address is: [minister@uuctc.org](mailto:minister@uuctc.org). Do not hesitate, if I'm not able to help, I'll help you find someone who can.

Go in peace gentle people, go in peace.

# BOARD NEWS

From the Desk of Linda S. Prokopy, Board President

Your church board has been busy over the last few weeks. We attempted to call all of our signed members\* to gather nominations for the ministerial search committee, we applied for financial assistance through the federal CARES Act, and we started worrying about the financial impact of COVID-19 on church operations. Oesten Nelson on the board also worked very hard with Alice Pawley, Eric Thiel and Rev. Rosemary to transition us to online services.

\*Note: If you didn't receive a phone call, your directory information is most likely out of date!!

Please send your current info to Monty Myszak, Office Administrator at [office@uuctc.org](mailto:office@uuctc.org) so he can update our records for you.

## Ministerial Search Committee

As you hopefully know by now, we are in the midst of an interim ministry and the search for our next settled minister is on track to start this summer. The board's role in this search process is to populate a ministerial search committee that works very hard over the course of the next year. At our April board meeting, we discussed the ideal composition of this committee – we want to maximize the diversity of the committee in terms of demographics and church role so that everyone's interests are represented. Over the next few weeks, I'll be calling people who were nominated by their church peers and inviting them to serve on this committee. We expect to have it populated no later than June and the committee can then start their very important work!

## Finances

The CARES Act contained provisions to help small businesses apply for funding to keep staff employed. We learned that for the purposes of this particular Act, churches are considered to be small businesses. The board took an online vote and decided to move forward with an application. With significant help and advice from experts at the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and help from our own bank, Purdue Federal Credit Union, we were able to submit all the paperwork before they ran out of funds. Purdue Federal has

informed us that we were approved and should see money soon. As long as we spend the money on approved expenses, we will not need to repay the money. Approved expenses are salary and benefits for all our staff and utility payments over a two month period. If we asked for too much money, we can return the leftover funds by a certain date interest-free.

Why is this important? We anticipate severe hits to our revenue this year – other than our ongoing tenants, building rentals have ceased and future fundraisers will likely not happen. While we know many of you will continue to pay your pledges (and maybe even increase to help us through this difficult time), we also know others of you are facing job loss and insecurity and will be unable to pay your pledge. This support from the CARES Act will hopefully be enough to offset our expected losses for the year. This will help us keep our reserves intact for what will likely be a challenging 2021. The board is committed to keeping our staff employed and our building functional for the duration of this crisis.

If you have any questions about any of this, please don't hesitate to reach out and ask: [boardpresident@uuctc.org](mailto:boardpresident@uuctc.org) or 337-2262. Also, if you're able to help out with our 2021 stewardship campaign, please let me know. We're working on assembling a committee to share the load but it will be a very important year for stewardship and we need your help.

Thanks,

*Linda*

# thank you!

Let's all give a **big round of thanks** to **Doug and Sharon McKnight** for the new drinking fountains. The two of them donated the fountains, and Doug even installed them for us! The fountain in the Fellowship Hall has a nice water bottle filling option for those of us who want to take our water with us, and the set in the Office Wing has one high/one low for all ages and abilities.

Thank you, **McKnights!!!**

More thanks are due to **Tom and Susanne McConnville, Robin and Dianna Poindexter, Don Gresham, Larry Guentert, and Noemi Ybarra**. This team has helped to upgrade the lighting in the Fellowship Hall over the past year or so.

Thanks to the **McConnvilles, Poindexters, and Don** for donating the money to buy new LED bulbs and the ballasts needed to make them work. Thanks to **Don, Larry, and Noemi** for doing the laborious installation - from hauling in a scaffold, to cleaning the reflectors, and doing all the electrical work.

**Thanks, team!!!**

## To Our UU Congregation:

As you know, our church is a participating partner in Family Promise, the only organization that houses homeless **families** in our area. Our host week is coming up, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, volunteer hosts are not being used now. This places a huge burden on the staff. Currently there is one family in the shelter, and new clients will be housed in hotels so that they can self-isolate. The goal is to bring families into the shelter after they have isolated in hotels for 14 days and do not show any symptoms of the virus. One need is for thermometers so that the families in hotels can take their temperature regularly and know that they are not sick before transferring to the shelter. The director has ordered thermometers, but they are not scheduled to be delivered until May. If you have extras around your house, please consider taking them to the shelter.

Additionally, this is straining the Family Promise budget, and we ask that you consider making a donation to Family Promise so that the program can continue to serve homeless parents and children. You can either write a check to:

Family Promise of Greater Lafayette, Inc.  
2010 Elmwood Ave.  
Lafayette, IN 47904

Or donate on-line at: <http://www.fpglinc.org/>

Nakeshia, the Family Promise Director, asked that we keep the program's families and staff in our thoughts and prayers as they weather this storm. Thank you to our UU congregation for any help you can give at this time.

Very gratefully,

Jean Tyner and Josh Prokopy





Hello ComUUnity,

During this time of uncertainty, I have been trying to practice taking each day one at a time, hour at a time, minute at a time. Here's what I've been up to:

- Snuggling Gator as much as possible
- Going for very late night walks by a duck pond
- Watching tons of movies
- Reading for fun
- Cooking more than ever
- Starting a garden (with the help of Bota-Nanny)
- Drinking tea in my garage
- Helping support Mutual Aid
- Connecting with family and friends through Facetime and House Party
- Listening to records and having solo dance parties
- Creative outlets (beading, sketching, painting, decorating)



I hope everyone is staying safe and connected. I'm holding all of you in my hearts and thoughts until we can meet again. Until then, here are some ways to stay connected. Please let me know if you would like to be a special guest for any of the Zoom meetings. I'm looking for musicians, storytellers, artists, scientists, and anyone interested in sharing skills, hobbies, or talents. Message me for more information at [dre@uuctc.org](mailto:dre@uuctc.org).

- We'll be having weekly RE Zoom meetings on Sundays from 12-1.
  - 12:00-12:30 We will light our chalice, check in, and share stories/activities.
  - 12:30-1:00 This is a time for RE youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) to connect and check in.
- I encourage you to join one of our Facebook groups: UU Church Discussion, REGLUU, and UU Lafayette Youth. I'll be posting weekly check in questions and challenges.
- Join the RE mailing list. I'll be sending out weekly updates via email.
- Check the RE website at <https://regluu.wordpress.com> for more activities and information.

I just want to close by saying that I know these are challenging times and I want to do my best to support the UU community, families, children, youth, volunteers, and friends in any way that I can. Please let me know if you need anything: connection, resources, groceries, ideas, support. I will do my best to make sure you and your families are getting what they need.

With love and peace,  
Nicole McCabe, DRE

## Communication Committee Chair position available

Please contact Alice Pawley at [alicepawley@gmail.com](mailto:alicepawley@gmail.com) if interested.



*Lend us your leadership...* **Board Member Positions**

*Opening May 2nd!*

## UUC Tomato Plant Sale / Fundraiser



In early March, Beth Misner, JJ Rode and Lisa Pantea planted heirloom tomato seeds in anticipation of our annual May UUC Plant Sale. Those seeds have now turned into about 420 tomato plants and we would like to offer these plants to the congregation and friends in an 'amended' plant sale. All heirloom tomatoes are from Beth Misner's garden and are mid to late season. Below is a list of the tomato types, description, and how many small plants we currently have. The plants are available anytime, but the pickup details have not yet been confirmed.

Possible plans are to have them in the UUC playground area for pick up and payment. Most of the plants are currently 2-4 inches tall and can be repotted into 4" pots if need be, depending on when you would like them, now or later in May.

If you are interested in these plants, please notify Lisa Pantea at [lisapantea@gmail.com](mailto:lisapantea@gmail.com) or Beth Misner at [ejmmustang@gmail.com](mailto:ejmmustang@gmail.com), stating what type and how many plants you would like. Suggested price is \$2 to \$3, cash or check only, however any donation amount is welcome since this was intended to be a church fundraiser.

Type	Quantity Available	Description
Pineapple	77	1 plus lb. fruits that are yellow and red striped. Very pretty and tasty.
Pink Brandywine	42	1 lb. pink slicing tomato known for flavor.
Olpaka	60	Flavorful horn shaped paste tomatoes, dark red and dense. My favorite canning and sauce tomato. Half to 1 lb.
Yellow Pear	40	Small tasty pear shaped tomatoes. Kids love to go out and graze them in the garden. Grows in clumps like grapes.
Oxheart	47	Heart shaped 1 lb. red tomatoes can be used for canning or slicing.
Dark Cherry	42	These and the Yellow Pear tomatoes often just grow in my compost heap, so I don't really know the original name of these 1 oz. fruits, with a good burst of flavor.
Black Krim	30	Dark brown red tomato 8 to 16 oz, bold flavor.
Japanese Trifele	6	4 to 6 oz pear shaped fruit with rich flavor. Cherry tomatoes.
Old German	62	These tasty tomatoes can grow to over 2 lbs. Often one slice for a sandwich. A favorite tomato of many of my friends.
Mortgage Lifter	4	

### **MASK FUNDRAISER - LIFESAVER**

#### MAKING MASKS FOR UU AND FRIENDS

100% of your donation will be given to UUCTC (Locally or online, most masks sell for \$10-\$30) Can't afford to pay? That's OK. Give what you can. I am donating the time and materials: 2-layer high quality cotton fabric, elastic thread.

**If you want a mask**, comment on my Facebook post on UU Discussion Group, or private message me, or email [jeanfiddle@gmail.com](mailto:jeanfiddle@gmail.com). Masks are reversible and come in assorted prints and colors. When your mask is ready, I will send my address, put your mask(s) in a bag on my porch, and your donation (cash or check made out to UUCTC) can be placed in the bag, when you pick up your mask. Children's sizes upon special request.

Thanks! *Jean Herr*





Dear Unitarian Universalist Church Inc. (IN316),

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community.

We encourage you to ask your supporters to link their rewards card to your organization. Community Rewards is easy to use, The more your supporters shop with us, the more money your organization will earn!

We are committed to carefully protecting our customer's personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, we have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Our privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation as well.

Thank you for being such an important organization in our community,

Community Rewards Staff

**Jan-01-2020 to Mar-31-2020**  
**22 Households**  
**\$74.07 Total Donations**

# NURSERY

**Christina Wright, Nursery@uuctc.org**

**For kids of all ages**

My wish for you is...

- |                              |                                |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| To splash in muddy puddles   | To make special friends        | To spread your wings and fly like a bird |
| To run through green fields  | To find the end of the rainbow |  |
| To feel the sun on your skin | To sleep under the stars       |  |

## *Lighted Chalice*

Unitarian Universalist Church of Tippecanoe County  
333 Meridian St., West Lafayette, IN, 47906

Phone: (765) 743-8812  
Fax: (765) 743-8845  
Office Email: [office@uuctc.org](mailto:office@uuctc.org)  
Website: [www.uuctc.org](http://www.uuctc.org)  
Facebook: UUCTC

Email submissions to [lightedchalice@uuctc.org](mailto:lightedchalice@uuctc.org)  
**Deadline is the 15th of the month.**

## Preview of *May* worship

- May 10th—Full of Possibilities
- May 17th—A Series of Signs
- May 24th—Wanting Memories
- May 31st—There is More Love Somewhere