



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Centre County

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July 17, 2020

Dear Ones,

Please take a moment to read this entire letter.

After deep thought and careful consideration, on Tuesday night, the UUFCC Board of Trustees unanimously passed the following motion: "The building will be closed through May 2021, and the board is committed to flexibility and in special programming as the health situation and organizational capacity allow." We are notifying our members and friends of this extension via letter, email, and placing the announcement on the UUFCC website.

This choice was not an easy one. Together, we have decided to continue taking the steps necessary to protect members, families, friends, staff, and the State College community that we are all a part of. Our decision was made after considering information from the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association), the State of Pennsylvania, CDC (Center for Disease Control), and several local organizations (including other State College faith communities). We believe that UUFCC will be best served by leaning into new ways of living as a community. Ways that are not tied to the ups and downs in COVID19 cases, which are likely to continue until next spring, when we hope for wide distribution of a vaccine.

What does this really mean?

- All indoor Sunday Services and large meetings and events are canceled.
- The UUFCC building remains closed until further notice.
Please do not enter it.
- The Board is committed to finding new ways for our community to be together: out-of-doors, virtually, and if/when safely possible inside - in small groups.
- Rev. CTC will continue to be available for pastoral care, comfort, and the many invisible facets of ministry that serve our congregation. Unfortunately, right now, face to face pastoral care visits are not possible. Our minister is here for each one of us. Please reach out to Rev. CTC via phone 814.237.7605 (ext. 100) or email revcissel@uufcc.com.
- Our Office Administrator Michelle, DLRE Ashley, and Financial Secretary Joe will continue to meet the needs of the fellowship while working remotely. They can all be reached via phone 814.237.7605 and email (office@uufcc.com, mmcmullen@uufcc.com, ahamlin@uufcc.com, and jkowalskiuufcc@gmail.com). Following her usual summer break, Music Director Colleen will continue leading our music program. This fall look forward to a few new twists that our longer commitment to ZOOM will allow.

Board members are here for you. We want to hear your ideas for staying in community over the next several months, virtually and by other safe means. Additionally, we promise to keep you informed about opportunities to help and support one another, even if we cannot be together in our usual ways. We plan to begin offering interactive meetings about dealing as a congregation with the virus, similar to the meetings that we held in April about the UUFCC budget. These meetings will be held periodically through next spring.

Thank you for your understanding. We will keep you informed of any changes via our website (www.uufcc.com), email, Facebook page (facebook.com/UUCentreCounty), ENews, UU Connections, and telephone.

Remember, we said this in March: "UUFCC is not closed. Only the building is. Our community is caring and alive. We are not bound by brick and mortar walls. Please reach out and care for each other as often as possible." This remains true.

In Faith and Fellowship,
The UUFCC Board and Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel