

Dear Members and Friends,

We have decided to cancel in-person Sunday morning services and religious education classes at Sunnyhill for now (effective this Sunday, March 15) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This decision is a difficult one for many reasons—one of which is that, during this time of fear, anxiety and uncertainty, we really need each other more than ever before. But we have concluded that an abundance of caution is appropriate in the current circumstances, which is in keeping with a [message from the UUA](#) yesterday strongly urging all congregations to cancel gatherings of 25 or more people

Until further notice, Sunday services will be held online only and can be accessed via Facebook Live on the [church Facebook page](#) and via YouTube Live on Sunnyhill's [YouTube channel](#). Services will be streamed live at the usual time (Sundays at 10:00 a.m.), and recordings will be available afterward on the church's website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel. We will be using Zoom for RE classes, which can be accessed [here](#) (and further details about RE will be sent in a separate communication).

For chalice circles and other small groups that meet during the week, we will continue to offer these meetings but urge extreme caution to all who attend. Please do not come to any event if you are sick, and make sure that you are following health experts' recommendations (including washing your hands frequently, avoiding touching your mouth and face, and sneezing and coughing into tissues or your sleeve). If guidance from health agencies changes, we will adapt accordingly.

We want to stay as connected as we can to one another during this time and to provide whatever support we can for those who are most affected by this virus. If you are in need of any special support (spiritual, emotional, or physical), please let us know. We are compiling a list of people who might be most affected so we can check in with them regularly, and if you know someone who should be added to the list, just let us know. Also, if you are willing to run errands or perform other tasks for those who may be quarantined or at-risk, also please let us know.

In addition, we are postponing the Sunnyhill "Under the Sea" Service Auction, but we will still proceed with the parties/gatherings portion of the auction via online sign-ups (details to follow soon in a separate communication).

In my sermon this Sunday, I will be talking more about the role of the church during this challenging time. Ironically, perhaps one of the best ways we can come together right now is to stay apart. Meanwhile, we will do everything we can to support one another and to continue to create a more just and compassionate community in every way possible.

Thank you for your patience and your cooperation during this difficult time for our community and for our world.

Love to all,

Rev. Jim