

***Know this: UUFG 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.***

~ The Rev. Carol Thomas Cissel (adapted)

March 13, 2020

Dear UUFG Beloved,

After deep thought and careful consideration, it is my job to inform you that the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville is canceling all group meetings at this time.

This letter and upcoming phone calls will notify our members and friends.

We are working towards using online tools and social media platforms to stay in touch. We hope to be streaming Sunday services and continuing the work of the Fellowship via Zoom meetings. We will be helping you access these tools as ways we can be in community.

The UUFG staff will work both in the office and remotely from home as needs demand.

Our decision was made after considering information from the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association), the CDC (Center for Disease Control); several local organizations (including other Gainesville liberal faith communities and the University of Florida), just to name a few.

We have decided it is only responsible to act in the same way that those groups have, by taking actions to protect staff, members, friends.

What does this really mean?

[click "Read more..." to continue]

All in-person Services, Meetings and Events are cancelled. The UUG buildings are closed. Look for additional instructions about our online connections later today.

1. Rev. Christe is available for pastoral care conversations and will continue the many facets of ministry that serve the congregation. They will visit people as able and needed. You can reach them via their office phone or email minister@UUG.org .

2. Our Office Administrator Cam Pierce, will continue to handle UUG calls, voicemail, the website, and our Facebook and email announcements. He can be reached at admin@UUG.org . Please, for Cam's health and well-being, respect his office boundaries.

3. Heather Arata, our Director of Religious Education (DRE), is also available to meet your family's RE needs, via phone and email at dre@UUG.org . Heather will be trying some innovative things to help families stay connected during this time.

4. Members of our newly forming care team will be reaching out to hear your needs and ideas for staying in community over the next few weeks, both online and by other means.

5. Our Governing Board *will* be holding their monthly meeting on Monday, March 16 at 6:30p via Zoom. Information on how to access it will be emailed to members.

Thank you for your understanding as we make these moves to protect our community. We will keep you informed of any changes via our website (www.UUFG.org), email, Facebook page, Mailchimp e-newsletter, and telephone.

In Faith,

Rev. Christe