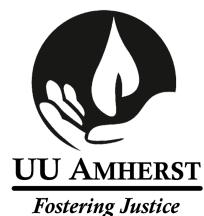
June 2020

The Foreword

The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst
6320 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221
634-3010 (x101 for office)
Office Hours Tues.—Fri. 9am to 2pm www.uuamherst.org



Fostering Justice and Compassion

Our Staff:

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Elaine Harrigan.....**x101** administrator@uuamherst.org

Minister Emerita

Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener

Our Covenant

Together we promise:
To gather in compassionate
community,
To celebrate diversity of thought and

unity of spirit; And to seek wholeness for ourselves,

Ana to seeк wnoleness for ourselves, our children, and our world.

SUNDAY SERVICES JUNE AT 10:30 AM

We will continue to meet virtually each Sunday morning at 10:30 am. Go to our website and click on the link, or go directly to our YouTube channel (UU Amherst).

June 7 "We Shall Be Known" Rev. Michelle

On this Pride Sunday we will explore what's next in UU justice efforts as we live into our commitments as a Welcoming and Green Sanctuary, as well as the UU-the-Vote initiative.

June 14 Avatars of Compassion Rev. Michelle

The parallel teachings of Jesus, Buddha, Krishna, & Lao Tzu and how they inform Unitarian Universalism in the 21st century.

Annual Meeting follows at noon

June 21 Annual Flower Communion

<u>Home Participation Project</u>: Take pictures of yourself and family members with flowers. Send the digital photos to Devon Southall (devon_buffalo@yahoo.com) by June 15. Please include first names and last initials of those photographed to help us all know each other better. Let's see how many of our beautiful faces we can include!

June 28 All UU Worship via General Assembly

SPECIAL TIME 10:00 am - Watch for special instructions to take part in this combined UU worship service!

Connections:

Zoom - Lunch with Friends (thru 6/18/20 Each Thursday at noon. See the Weekly Update for the link.

Zoom - Shared Caring Circle (thru 6/20/20) Saturdays at 9:30 am. Thirty minutes of prayer and care. See the Weekly Update for the link.

MINISTER'S CORNER

Well, I don't know about you, but I'm rethinking everything. We may not be able to gather as a full community for a year.

I'm still letting that sink in. I have to remind myself that we can probably gather in small groups in another couple of months, maybe by Fall - so I can see your beautiful faces, even before we can return to our sanctuary.

I worry about you. I worry about us. How long can we sustain the beloved community while separated? I am so grateful for the Villages initiative - I do believe it will be the primary way we connect in the months to come. Please do not hesitate to get involved. We are in this for the long haul - and you do not need to be alone. Truly, we are never alone. Each of you has a special place in my heart, and I look forward to finding a way to have a cup of tea and conversation with you in the not-too-distant future.

Every Sunday service that comes to you online takes about <u>15 hours</u> to execute. The worship and tech teams are working hard to bring you the best services we are able. I hope that you honor our commitment and hard work by tuning in and sharing the link with friends.

When you wonder what our staff are doing when we're not able to meet in person, I hope you will remember that creating and sustaining the Villages takes each of us. I hope you will consider the many ways we are reaching out to families and seniors - creating ways to connect, whether you are completely overwhelmed with working from home, while homeschooling, or feeling completely alone and isolated from family and friends. As a church, we are creating pathways for connection - but it is up to you to partake.

Unitarian Universalists tend to be 'rugged individualists'. I invite you to set aside that persona and embrace faith and friendship. Reach out to one another. Invite friends and family to join you at virtual church. Please, do not try to 'tough it out' alone. We are family. You can trust us to hold your joys, your sorrows, your anxieties, the fullness of who you are. You are loved. You are not alone.

Be well, Rev. Michelle

Time Away

Friends, even though we are in the midst of so much change and uncertainty, I need to take a break. I was scheduled to take two weeks of study leave this spring - and that simply didn't happen. I will be taking the month of July off to re-energize and prepare for the coming church year - a church year unlike any we have ever known.

If you need financial assistance from the minister's discretionary fund - please reach out. I will still be checking email and connecting as needed.

Our Preaching by Parishioners program will be bringing you Sunday services throughout July. Faith Development will be taking a hiatus. Some programming (young adults and Poetry as Practice) will continue through the summer. Watch the weekly updates for Zoom invitations.

Breathe. Stay connected. Reach out.

Rev. Michelle

MINISTERIAL INTERN NOTES



Here we are at the very end of my two-year internship at UU Amherst. It's really time to say thank-you and goodbye to all the wonderful people, experiences, and communities I've interacted with while I've been a part of the staff of this congregation.

I'll be remaining here in Western New York for at least another year, as my family and I decide what our next steps should be on the winding road of life. And while it may seem strange, I'll need to take a break from interacting with you for a little while, in order to maintain healthy professional boundaries and observe best practices for leaving congregations.

Here is how it's expressed in the Unitarian Universalist Association's Internship Manual: "In part because interns and members of the congregation need to encounter the emotions associated with saying goodbye, it is customary for the intern not to maintain any contact with members of the teaching site for at least a year. Ministry is fundamentally about service to a congregation or a community-based entity. When an intern has the opportunity to cope successfully with the grief that is a part of leaving, it enables them to gain that understanding of ministry as service. The other reason for making a clean break is that any incoming intern deserves to be welcomed by a congregation or constituency that is not still engaged in a relationship with a former intern, along with all the feelings and loyalties that might accompany that relationship."

What will this look like? Well, I won't be participating in UU Amherst events for the next year, and I'll also need to "unfriend" many of you on Facebook for the time being. Please understand that this isn't out of any ill-feeling, or lack of interest on my account! It's simply in observance of the established customs, outlined above, for ending an internship properly.

Next year is likely to be another tumultuous one for our nation, for our community, and for this congregation. I know that all of us will continue to hold each other in love and care, as we navigate these changes. Know that wherever I go and whatever I do in my ministry, UU Amherst will always remain in my heart! So I will say goodbye for now, but I trust, not forever. And thank you, deeply, for all you have shared and all you have taught me during the past two years.

Blessings and good health to all,

Kristina

A Note of appreciation from Jean Kizilbash

In the summer of 2001, Mehdi's sermon was titled: "Will You Remember Me?" His premise was that this question keeps recurring at different points in our lives, rising not from our fear of dying, but of being forgotten. His remarks addressed this as a "meaning-of-life" question.

Nineteen years later, Mehdi's physical entity has left us but from the many loving messages and fond memories I've received from you paying tribute to a beautiful life, I can assure Mehdi that he is not, nor will he ever be forgotten by those whose lives he touched.

The words of love and caring you've expressed for \underline{me} touch me deeply and I thank you sincerely!

Jean (Kizilbash) May 19, 2020

MINISTER'S OFFICE HOURS Please be aware that Rev. Michelle is primarily working for home during this time.

Tuesday-Thursday
Fridays, sermon writing @home
Monday: Rev. Michelle's day off

HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT?

Email: administrator@uuamherst.org
For Newsletter: by 10:00 am on the 16th
For Order of Service: by 10:00 am Wed prior
For Website: two weeks prior to event
For all church list serve: daily during the week.
For Weekly Update: Fridays by 10:00 am

Office Hours: (subject to change)
Tuesday through Friday—9am to 2pm

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING

Dear UU Amherst Voting Members and Friends,

The annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, June 14 at noon. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, the meeting will be held online, via Zoom. Technical details regarding how to participate in the meeting and how to vote will be distributed in a separate message.

In accordance with the bylaws, at the meeting we will

- 1. Conduct elections for the Board of Trustees, the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee, and the Endowment Trust, as previously detailed in an email to the congregation on May 3.
- 2. Submit for congregational approval of our budget for the 2020-2021 church year. The budget contains an item of financial support for the Unitarian Universalist Association and this will be separately considered and voted upon by the congregation. More information about the budget is given in another news item here.

Additionally, we will consider a change in the language of one part of the declaration of trust that governs the Endowment Trust, to put it in accord with the bylaws of the Church. Specifically, we propose to change the current language.

"Candidates for Endowment Trustee shall be nominated by the Endowment Trustees subject to the approval of the Church Trustees."

To this:

"Candidates for Endowment Trustee shall be nominated in accordance with the Bylaws of the Church." For elucidation, the UU Amherst bylaws provide for Endowment Trust nominations under Article VII: Section C. No later than the first day in April of each year, the nominating & leadership development committee shall submit to the Board of Trustees a slate consisting of:

3) At least one (1) candidate for each new term or vacancy on the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst Endowment Trust

This change will be made in accordance with Section 16 of the Declaration of Trust.

We require that 50 voting members be present to fill a quorum, so it is very important that you attend (virtually) if at all possible.

According to the bylaws any voting member must have:

- 1. signed the membership book prior to April 14, 2020, AND
- 2. made a recorded financial contribution of any amount to the church between July 2018-June 2019, AND
- 3. either made a recorded financial contribution to the church or pledged to make a financial contribution of any amount to the church for the current fiscal year. (June 2019-June 2020)
- (2) is waived for new members or returning members.

You will be able to check your membership status against the latest list which will be available via a Google link. Look for an announcement in a separate email and in the Weekly Update. Or, you can check your membership status upon request from the church administrator, Elaine Harrigan: 716-634-3010 x101, Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm.

Budget for the 2020-2021 church year is available for review

The proposed annual budget for the 2020-2021 church year, as approved by the Board on May 12, is available for review, as found here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jt7zxoY1wzrqgT0MW2zW1p3h1sMi_-QyWSzSQEGq04s/edit?usp=sharing

Please examine it carefully and be prepared to discuss and vote on it at the congregational meeting to be held on June 14 (as announced in another message).

We are pleased to announce that our Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan has been approved. This will help us to finish the current budget year while dealing with certain and uncertain shortfalls in revenue that are a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The loan is structured to be forgivable, so we can reasonably (but not surely) expect this to be equivalent to a grant. Great thanks go to Don Tucker, Cindy Becker, and the church staff for the tedious work that was required to secure this loan.

The Board will conduct two Q&A sessions to address 2020-2021 budget issues as much as possible before the annual meeting. These will be held via Zoom on Thursday May 28 at 2:00 m, and Saturday May 30, also at 2:00 pm. To help us prepare, please send questions to us via email beforehand, to dkofke@roadrunner.com, and/or kkuhn745@gmail.com. We will also entertain new questions at the meeting. Zoom invites will be sent via another message. For those who are unable to participate via Zoom, please call David Kofke or Karen Thompson with any questions (phone numbers are in the church directory).

The proposed budget projects a significant deficit. We have made conservative estimates of revenues and expenses, so we hope that this reflects a worst-case (albeit likely) scenario. On the one hand, we had great success with pledging, showing that the congregation recognizes the difficult situation we're facing, and is promising to step up their support accordingly. The deficit largely reflects uncertainty regarding our ability to conduct fundraisers, and anticipated shortfalls in rental income. There's room for creativity to address these losses while working in this new environment, and this is another way that you can step up to help the church. We need substitutes for our usual income sources, perhaps made newly possible by this situation. We hope we can think of new ideas in this direction, but we cannot budget under the assumption that it will happen. This is the challenge we present to you for the coming year.

The stewardship of past Boards has put us in a healthy position to weather this difficulty. I am confident that, under the leadership of the next Board, the skill and dedication of our membership and staff will see us through the year ahead.

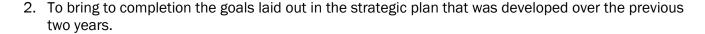
BOARD NOTES

Dear UUCA members and friends,

This will be my final Board Notes column. I should be able to keep it short, as much of what I have to say relating to Board issues are found in the announcements of the annual meeting, and the proposed budget, each given in separate items of this issue of *The Foreword*.

So, looking back briefly, early in the term of this Board I laid out our plans for the 2019-20 church year:





- 3. To implement policy-based governance.
- 4. To abruptly transition to fully online operation in response to a global pandemic.

OK, maybe one of these was not on the agenda at the beginning of our term! Clearly, our view of what we would accomplish dramatically changed over recent months. Still, we made real progress on every front:

- 1. While we had to suspend our data-gathering and planning needed to address our physical-plant issues, we've raised awareness among the congregation toward the necessity to do something about the increasingly urgent problems here, and to consider our vision for the future of the church. We hope you're ready now to accept and contribute to planning for the changes that will have to come.
- 2. We made progress with the Welcoming and Marketing Task Forces, improving our entry space and getting a better idea of what is needed to attract and maintain new members. I had hoped to do a lot more toward getting a new sign, but alas, it was not to be.
- 3. We are near completion of development and approval by the Board of the policy manuals that will guide governance of the church as we move forward. So a bit of success there.
- 4. We accomplished the goal of continuing operation through the pandemic with great success! Unfortunately, the effort needed to do this, and the limitations it imposed in other ways (e.g., inability to meet with architects) put a damper on our other goals.

I'm grateful to all the members of the Board who served with me this year. The church has an outstanding group of individuals supporting my efforts, and they were largely responsible for many of the initiatives and accomplishments made this year. I greatly respect and appreciate the patient guidance of Rev. Michelle and church staff in keeping me aware of and focused on the issues facing the church, as well as the sometimes obscure but important minutiae that falls under the purview of the Board Chair (actually, a lot of people helped me there). We are fortunate to have so many people of great talent and wisdom contributing to the church. These qualities give me optimism for the future of UU Amherst, and I look forward to the years ahead.

Yours in service,

David Kofke, Chair, on behalf of the Board of Trustees



FROM UU ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

The following is excerpted from a message posted on the Unitarian Universalist Association website by president Susan Frederick-Gray. These are her thoughts regarding the question of reopening UU churches.

COVID-19 AND CHURCH REOPENING

While there is much public conversation about "reopening," the reality is public health officials consistently predict a long trajectory for this pandemic. A majority of our congregational members, leaders, and staff members are in high-risk categories. Our care for the well-being and safety of our members and staff must be a priority in this pandemic.

Additionally, religious gatherings are considered highly contagious events. The acts of singing, the familiarity of people across households, the multigenerational community of children, youth, adults and seniors—the things that make our congregations so special—also create more risk for spreading the virus. Given that so much uncertainty and risk remain, anticipating a year of virtual operations allows for more creative long-term planning, while still being flexible if conditions change significantly. We recognize that with time, and depending on the specific conditions and recommendations of local public health officials, small in -person groups of people and limited staff activities onsite may become possible while wearing masks, observing social distancing guidelines, and following diligent cleaning practices.

In making our recommendations, we are guided by science and our deepest held values. This pandemic teaches us that our actions directly impact the health and well-being of our neighbors and so it is imperative that we make choices that keep our congregations and larger community safer. As COVID-19 disproportionately impacts people with disabilities, Black people, Indigenous communities, Latinx people, the elderly, and essential workers, a majority of whom are women and women of color, religious communities have a moral responsibility to do all we can to reduce risks for those already at such high risk.

Public health officials are clear. There will need to be multiple weeks of reduction in infections, adequate testing, sufficient personal protective equipment available, contact tracing programs and perhaps a vaccine before it will be safe for many of our congregations to fully gather in person again.

All this said, **our ministries are essential services.** I am moved by congregations who are increasing their services and generosity to the larger community during this pandemic. I am inspired by those who are keeping their "virtual" doors open. Many congregations have committed to keeping their services widely accessible and available to new people and visitors, while also creating more opportunities for virtual small groups to tend to the social, spiritual, emotional, and material needs of their members.

We hope that a vaccine or an effective treatment will be found soon to change this timeline. In the meantime, being able to plan the longer horizon of virtual services offers an opportunity to be creative in planning for life-giving, essential ministry across physical distance.

Google Members' Directory

In an effort to provide an always-up-to-date directory and save paper, we have recently placed a UU Amherst Directory in a shared folder on Google. You do not need a Google account to access! If you did not receive an email invitation to view the directory, or need the link, please let Elaine know by phone or email. The Directory is View only. If you discover an error, or need to update your information, send an email to administrator@uuamherst.org or call the office at 634-3010.

NOTE: If you would prefer not to have your contact information visible in the Google shared directory, please let Elaine know (administrator@uuamherst.org), and it can be removed.

GREEN SANCTUARY / CLIMATE JUSTICE

Call for interested parties!

Are you interested in helping brainstorm how we can host a VIRTUAL (online) Green Goat Festival? Let's talk! Email me at devon_buffalo@yahoo.com. The festival is planned for weekend of August 22.

My family and I have been busy this month visiting the Ecology Center behind the church to map out paths and assisting with the maintenance. Current maintenance priorities are helping remove baby invasive buckthorns that were under the large invasive honeysuckles that Les and team removed last fall. Let Angela know if you are interested in helping.

If you haven't been to the Ecology Center lately, I would encourage it! In addition to the labyrinth there are bunnies and lots of birds: jays, robins, chickadees, and we have heard red wing blackbirds and, maybe even, a wood thrush! We haven't found them yet, but Les says there are fossils in the large rocks too. Additionally, we discovered a path that goes into the woods in the back section of the grounds – we marked this with red fabric flags.

Best, Devon Southall Map, right, shows the complete trail system. The short "extension" at the top of the map is the part of the trail that has been flagged.



Labyrinth in the Ecology Center



AMHERST LITTLE FREE PANTRY UPDATE Submitted by Marie Ceraulo

We are thrilled to announce affirmations of support of our own Amherst Little Free Pantry from community funding sources and our own Social Justice group.

We have received a \$750 grant from Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Western New York. Kudos to Elaine Harrigan, Church Administrator for finding out about the grant in the first place when BC&BS called about placing insurance literature in the Pantry. We were also notified that we have been awarded a MPAC-WNY Community Mini-Grant of \$1775 from the Muslim Public Affairs Council of Western New York. Kudos to Enid Bloch of Congregation Havurah for telling me about the grant, which is specifically for supporting community organizations during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Lastly, the Social Justice team of UUCA voted to make a donation in-house to the Pantry rather than a Social Justice initiative outside church this year. We greatly appreciate this decision.



It is so encouraging to see the community recognize all our hard work and the resource our Pantry has become to those in need. Thanks to everyone who provided support and application materials to me during these efforts!

Right now we especially need: Chef Boyardee products (such as canned ravioli, spaghetti-o's, etc.) tuna and canned meats, shelf-stable milks and nondairy substitutes, coffee, soup, gluten-free items, baby food (no glass), size 2 & 3 diapers, dish detergent, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, lotions, tissues, deodorant, feminine hygiene supplies, and can openers.

For questions or comments please contact Maria Ceraulo at amherstlittlefreepantry@ uuamherst.org. Like us on Facebook: amherstlittlefreepantry.

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER RECIPES

Running out of ideas for what to cook while practicing social distancing and staying home? Here are two

heathy recipes to try with substitutions to make them vegan and gluten-free if needed.

Broccoli Cream Soup

Approximate time 40 minutes. Makes 3 - 4 servings

- 4 Tbsp butter
- 1 1/2 lbs fresh chopped broccoli
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 carrot, chopped
- 3 Tbsp all purpose flour
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup cream

Salt and fresh ground pepper



Melt butter over medium high heat in saucepan. Add broccoli, carrot, onion and salt and pepper and sauté until onion is translucent, about 6 minutes. Add flour and cook 1 minute until flour turns a blond color. Add stock and bring to a boil. Simmer uncovered until broccoli is tender, about 15 minutes. Pour in cream and purée with an immersion blender. Add salt and pepper to taste. Add croutons, if desired, and serve. If you wish, you can set aside a few pieces of broccoli before puréeing the soup and add the in afterward. A dollop of sour cream or non-dairy sour cream adds a nice touch when serving.

Substitutions for vegan and gluten free recipe.

Butter: use olive oil or margarine Flour: use gluten free flour

Chicken broth: use vegetable broth

Low Sodium Chicken Breast

Oven at 375 degrees 2 chicken breasts pounded or sliced to 3/4 inch filets

Marinade:

2 Tbsp white wine or white wine vinegar1 tsp olive oil1/2 tsp onion powder1/4 tsp garlic powder

1/2 tsp black pepper

1 tsp parsley flakes

Brush the marinade on each filet then cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Spray a grill pan with cooking oil and set on heat to get it hot. Grill chicken pieces for exactly 1 1/2 minutes per side. Place pan with breasts in the oven for 8 - 10 minutes. When breasts are fully cooked, plate and let stand for five minutes.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Dear members and friends,

As we enter into the final month of the school year, and the usual final month of Faith Development programming, almost everything seems different. One part of our church life that remains the same is wanting to engage with one another, with all of our families, with all of our friends. Although the "all" in a literal sense is some time away, we can continue to adapt and create during this long pause, this big huge change, from the normal we had been living in.

Though FD will be on hiatus from actual programming during July, we have a Rain Barrel painting and installation project that families will be sharing in. Our FD Team has come up with creative ways we can be cautious about being sanitary. The roll out of this project will be shared in our weekly FD email. Also, look for information on a fully virtual Summer Institute that will run from July 12 to 18. Kim Diana Connolly and Rev. Michelle are involved with SI each year, and other UU Amherst members have attended in the recent past. This week long virtual event will be light on programming, heavy on daily focused/spiritual and communal direction. It really sounds brilliant so far!

Now, for the nuts and bolts: I too will be taking some time off, starting with this first week of June, Monday the 1st through Sunday the 8th. The rest of my study leave will coincide with General Assembly, June 24 to 28. I will be unavailable the week of July 11 to 18.

It was announced during service a few weeks ago that Jeanine Moyer will be leaving her post as FD Chair and moving on to the BOT. We also will be fortunate to have the input of Emily Garrett as mother of four, full time work from home and new to home schooling miracle worker join the BOT. Thank you both for filling these roles!

Rosalind Sulaiman will be sharing leadership with me next year as our new FD Team Leader. Thank you Ros! I would also like to give a big shout out to Devon Southall for ALL she has done throughout this year. Suzanne Christ has also been a valuable FD Team member, Village facilitator, and Spirit Play doorkeeper this year. Diane Bofinger, well, honestly, I don't know what FD would look like without you. You remain a true touchstone for UU Amherst FD. I would not have made it through this year without having my team to lean on. Blessings to you all!

Thanks to all who have given to FD at UU Amherst this 2019-2020 year! "See" y'all soon!

Truly yours,
Angela Warren, Director of Faith Development

Chelsea' Warren's Community Art Project A big thank you to all who helped with contributions!





What are you doing to make the world a better place during the pandemic?

Elaine H. and Dian T. have been making protective masks for family and friends! Great job! Have you been doing something

to make the world better? Email the office at administrator@ uuamherst.org, and include pictures if you can!

NOTES FROM THE VILLAGES

Our innovative, virtual Villages program has rolled out! Thank you to those who volunteered to be the leaders/facilitators, and all those who have engaged so far. A HUGE thank-you to Director of Faith Development, Angela Warren, for taking on the administrative role of the program, with assistance from our office administrator, Elaine.

We've barely begun - but some of you have been so excited about the potential of the Villages that you've been talking it up in larger UU circles. We've been invited to offer a write-up for the Central East Region of the UUA, as well as an opportunity to share at a CER learning circle in late summer. Our UU siblings in Binghamton have reached out for information, too! We are sharing our methodology and experiences in the wider UU community, and in the local interfaith community - with the sole purpose of helping people connect and care for one another.

If you are interested in becoming involved in a virtual Village, simply contact Angela at dfd@uuamherst.org and she'll be glad to help you connect. Keep reaching out!

E-GIVING OPTIONS

As we travel through this challenging time we invent and discover new ways to do what was traditional and simple; some things continue unabated. The expenses of supporting our beloved church continue. Our services and many programs continue in new ways supported by our incredible technology. So also our way of "passing the plate", "gathering our pledges" and so on now includes previously unexploited technologies.

Now the church has implemented THREE ways to give electronically:

- 1. The **Giving** option on the church website (uuamherst.org)
- 2. A NEW phone app "GivePlus+" for your phone
- 3. Texting a donation to phone # **833 987 1968**These methods complement the traditional methods:
- 4. Mailing a check [remember to fill in the Memo]
- 5. There is the traditional Sunday Plate when you are in church!
- 6. Don't forget Legacy Giving in your will

PLEASE NOTE: If you have not sent in a pledge card because you are not leaving the house to mail one, or you're not comfortable emailing, you can call Elaine, Tues-Fri, 9:00 am- 2:00 pm; or Camilla, Mon, 9:00 am- 2:00 pm, and we will fill out a pledge card for you.

Don't forget to call your minister!

With health privacy laws, hospitals no longer call churches to let us know when someone has been hospitalized – so it is up to you to contact us if you or someone you know is experiencing health challenges and may want to be contacted. When in doubt, call!

Help When You Need It

This is a reminder that if you are experiencing financial hardship, you can reach out to Rev. Michelle (minister@uuamherst.org) for assistance from the Minister's Discretionary Fund. This Fund is made possible by the generosity of fellow congregants, and just one more way we demonstrate that no one is alone. We care for one another.



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