Stewardship FOR US
Building Cultures of Generosity and Commitment

Stewardship on Sundays
April 10, 2020

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Please Light A Chalice with Us

*UUA Web Image courtesy of Tina Lesley-Fox*
I Worried, by Mary Oliver

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers flow in the right direction, will the earth turn as it was taught, and if not how shall I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven, can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows can do it and I am, well, hopeless....
I Worried, by Mary Oliver

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?

Finally I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.
First Thing...

*Stewardship is community care.*

If you lead with caring, you will always be ok
Not worship consultants; stewardship consultants

- Normally the minister is responsible for the Sunday worship experience
- Congregations have unique cultures and practices
- Suggestions today are to spark your ideas, not “best practices”
- Everyone is in learning mode right now
For “Visitors”

Gateway to Sunday AM Experience:

• What does your Wayside Pulpit (sign in the street) say?

• What does the front page of your website say about Sunday services (and giving)?

• What does your Facebook page say (particularly if you are using Facebook Live for Sunday worship)?

• What does your YouTube Channel or Vimeo page say?
Welcome!
Visitors, Friends, and Members

Please join our community for **online worship** while you are staying safe with Healthy Distancing
9:30 am on Sundays
Or anytime that works in your schedule:
www.uucongregation.org

If you need support, we are here to help. Call us at (800) 111-1111
The All Souls Unitarian, DC website homepage. Notice that worship is right there, easy to find.
Worship Service, April 5, 2020

Notice that a donate button is right near the playback for worship. Easy to find!
This congregation has “pinned” their worship to the top of their Facebook page.
Sunday Opportunities

Congregations are using different platforms:
YouTube, Facebook Live, Vimeo, Zoom, etc.

When can you talk about giving and pledging on Sundays?

- Introduction Section
- During Worship: collection, time to make a donation
- Dedication/blessing the gifts
- Announcements
- Messages and links in the Chat function during worship
- Video coffee hour after service
What Kinds of Messages?

- Fearful/concerned about asking now?
- Not sure of the right tone?
- Worried about being unwelcoming?
- Does it fit with “worship” and “spirituality”?
- What about others in need?

*If you are messaging with compassion and care it will be fine*
What Kinds of Messages?

Rev. Rob Hardies,
All Souls Unitarian,
DC

https://all-souls.org/
What Kinds of Messages?

- Communicate caring and compassion as a community
- Welcome as if people have never been to a UU congregation before
- Invitation to give and make a difference
- Congregational income streams disrupted by distance
- Invite commitment to our programs and staff
- Invite both pledges and gifts
- Some unable to give, others can give even more
- Minister’s discretionary fund or Pastoral Care Fund
What Kinds of Messages?

Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd, River Road UU Cong. Bethesda, MD

https://www.rruuc.org/worship/sermons/
What Kinds of Messages?

- We make the congregation possible through our contributions
- We are building the future with these changes
- Hope and faith in the ongoing congregation
- Highlight different ways of contributing
- Members respond when we can, to the extent we can
- Heartfelt thanks for generosity
- Love, love, love, all around
What Kinds of Messages?

Rev. Tricia Hart, First UU Society, Burlington, VT

https://uusociety.org/worship-and-music/online-sunday-worship/
Question

How is your congregation bringing stewardship to the Sunday experience, which might be useful to other congregations?

Please see the blog for information that was shared in the Chat box.
More Questions

Send them to team@stewardshipforus.com

We will answer them directly or post them on our blog with answers if it’s a common question

Sign up for the blog here: https://stewardshipforus.com/blog/
**Poll Question**

**Sharing Poll Results**

*Attendees are now viewing the poll results*

1. We are asking for donations and/or pledges to our congregation on virtual Sundays: (Multiple choice)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In introductory remarks or announcements before worship</td>
<td>6/18</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With a collection during worship</td>
<td>12/18</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the benediction</td>
<td>0/18</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In announcements afterwards</td>
<td>1/18</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During virtual coffee hour/fellowship time</td>
<td>1/18</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We are not asking for donations on virtual Sundays</td>
<td>0/18</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please name in Chat now)</td>
<td>3/18</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Common Room

How does it happen? this transformation. Arriving from many directions, one bearing snacks, another the workday's toll of tension; one anxious for the family dinner, one thinking still of the parent's sickbed, or the child's; one joyful from a day well spent, and one still processing, processing the pain of another, revealed in confidence.

How do we do it? How do we become a whole, a body, each listening to the other, accepting ideas not our own, building together; wiser and more compassionate than any of us alone; creating and calling the spirit of life, living the spirit of love.
The Common Room

And then leaving, returning to the home, or the workplace; to the family, or the empty room; to the sick parent, or child; or to walk quietly before sleep, thinking, thinking of this day.

How do we come together? How do we make this time sacred?

— Everett Howe, (soon to be ordained as a UU minister at the First UU Church of San Diego)
Thank you!

Lay Leaders, Ministers, UUA Staff, Congregational Staff

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Stewardship For Us (S4Us)

• A two-decade tradition of stewardship support to Unitarian Universalists for all size congregations and clusters
• Coordinated with UUA Congregational Life and the UUA Regions

✓ Next Steps Process
✓ Budget Drives
✓ Capital and Combined Campaigns
✓ Financial Feasibility Studies
✓ Endowment and Planned Giving
✓ Mission and Vision
✓ Strategic Planning
✓ Leader Retreats & more …

New Hourly Consultations

➤ Annual and capital drive strategies for the near term
➤ Budgeting tips for this unique year

Contact team@stewardshipforus.com
Online sign-ups available soon!
Virtual Stewardship Salon

Gatherings for leaders working on the budget and pledge drives in UU congregations

*Hosted by [UUA Stewardship and Development](https://www.uua.org/)*

Rachel Maxwell of our team is part of the Stewardship Salons

Offered Mondays (not Thursday for the coming week).

**Mondays at 4 pm Pacific/5 pm Mountain/6 pm Central/7 pm Eastern**

To access the Salon: Join Zoom Meeting [https://zoom.us/j/6506789566](https://zoom.us/j/6506789566)

Meeting ID: 650 678 9566
Resources

Stewardship For Us:

• Blog Postings – more frequent
• Weekly Stewardship Symposia like these
  • Fridays at 10am PT / 11am MT / 12pm CT / 1pm ET
  • Slides are posted on our blog after the Symposia
• Webinars
• **NEW** Services to individual congregations. New:
  • Consulting by the hour
  • A remote Next Steps Weekend process for the near term
Resources

**UUA Regions**: Websites, emails, webinars, staff contacts

**UUA Stewardship & Development**: Website, emails, staff contacts

**Facebook**: UU Stewardship Lab

**UUA UU Money**

**UUMA**: Minister’s Association

**LREDA**: Religious Educators

**AUUA**: Association of UU Administrators

... and *other UU Congregations!*