



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](#)



Opening Words

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....*



Opening Words

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



Stewardship Within Worship

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



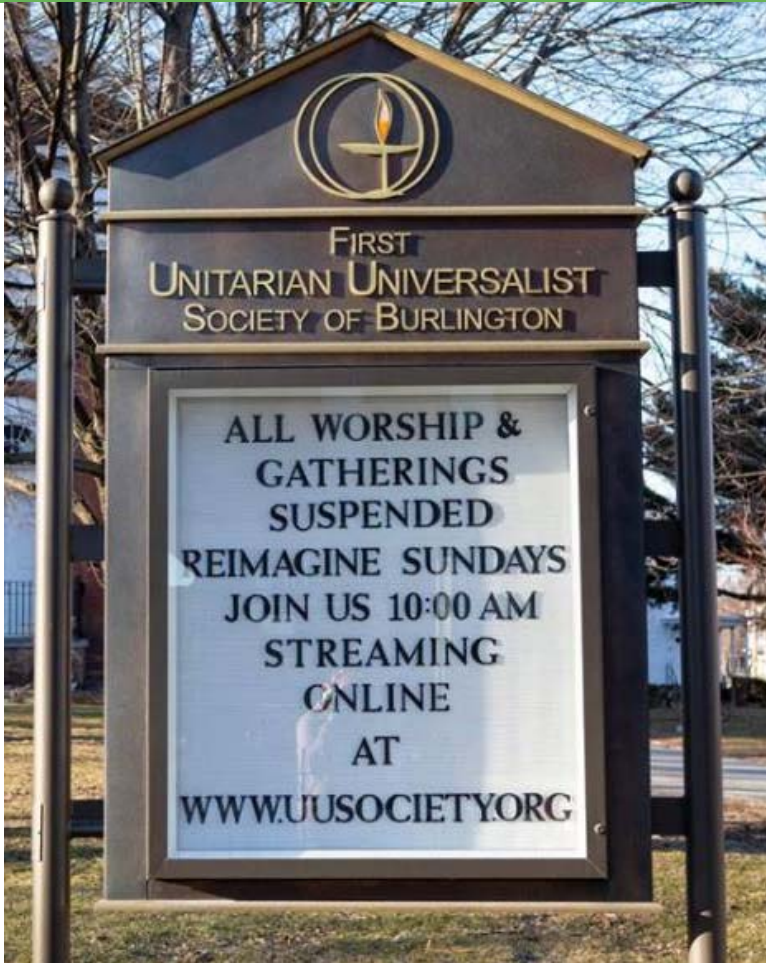
For “Visitors”

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?



General Communication



**Welcome!
Visitors, Friends, and Members**

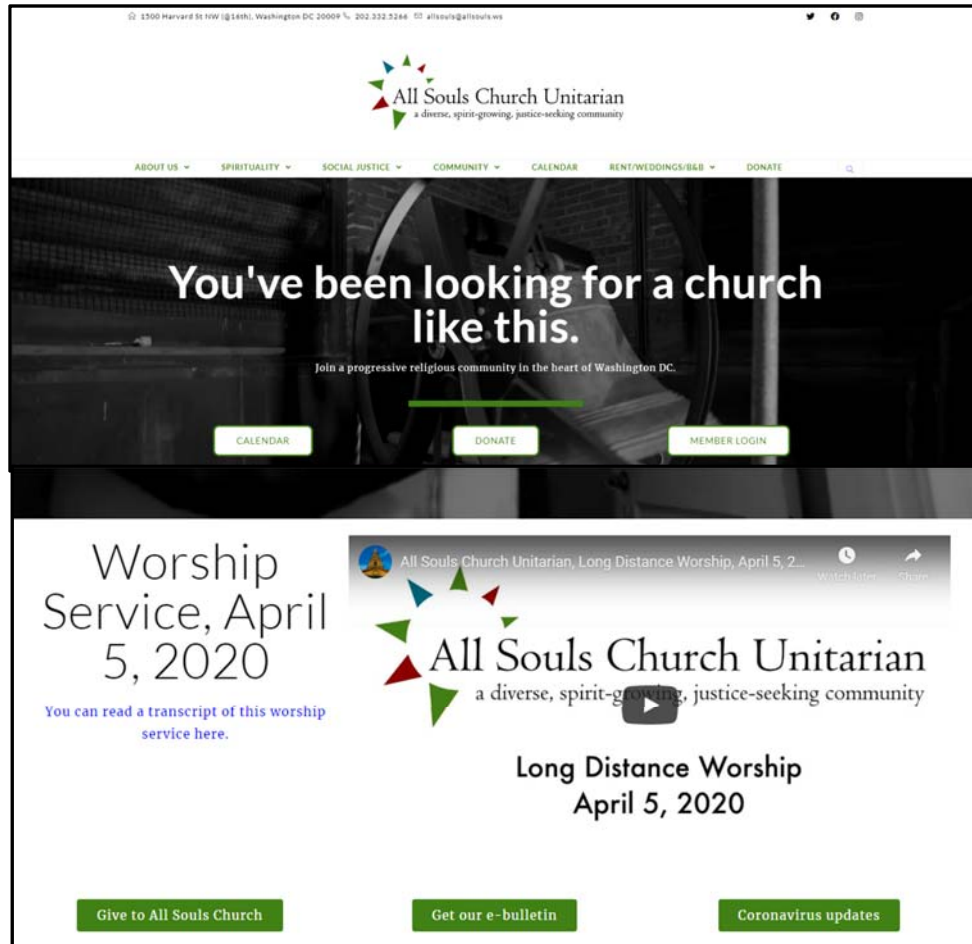
**Please join our community for
online worship while you are
staying safe with
Healthy Distancing
9:30 am on Sundays
Or anytime that works in your
schedule:**

www.uucongregation.org

**If you need support, we are here to
help. Call us at (800) 111-1111**

General Communication

The All Souls Unitarian, DC website homepage. Notice that worship is right there, easy to find.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the All Souls Church Unitarian website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for ABOUT US, SPIRITUALITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE, COMMUNITY, CALENDAR, RENT/WEDDINGS/B&B, and DONATE. The main header features the church's logo and the text "All Souls Church Unitarian a diverse, spirit-growing, justice-seeking community". Below this is a large banner with the headline "You've been looking for a church like this." and a sub-headline "Join a progressive religious community in the heart of Washington DC." Three buttons labeled "CALENDAR", "DONATE", and "MEMBER LOGIN" are positioned at the bottom of the banner. The main content area is divided into two sections. The left section is titled "Worship Service, April 5, 2020" and includes a link to read a transcript of the service. The right section is a video player for "All Souls Church Unitarian, Long Distance Worship, April 5, 2020". Below the video player, the text "Long Distance Worship April 5, 2020" is displayed. At the bottom of the page, there are three buttons: "Give to All Souls Church", "Get our e-bulletin", and "Coronavirus updates".



General Communication

Worship Service, April 5, 2020

[You can read a transcript of this worship service here.](#)

Notice that a donate button is right near the playback for worship. Easy to find!



Give to All Souls Church

Get our e-bulletin

Coronavirus updates



A YouTube video player thumbnail. At the top left is a small circular profile picture of a church building. To its right is the video title: "All Souls Church Unitarian, Long Distance Worship, April 5, 20...". On the right side of the title bar are icons for "Watch later" and "Share". The main area of the thumbnail features a large, colorful starburst logo made of triangles in blue, green, and red. Below the logo, the text reads "All Souls Church Unitarian" in a large serif font, followed by "a diverse, spirit-growing, justice-seeking community" in a smaller sans-serif font. A play button icon is centered over the text.

Long Distance Worship April 5, 2020

General Communication

This congregation has “pinned” their worship to the top of their Facebook page.



The screenshot shows the Facebook profile for UUCLB - The Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach. The page features a profile picture with a yin-yang, a bird, and a star, and a cover photo of a stained-glass window with a flame design. A pinned event titled "Online Church Service" is displayed prominently, with the text "Sunday 10:00am" and "UUCLB.org". The event is scheduled for April 12, from March 22 to September 27, and is categorized as "Religion". The page also shows engagement metrics: 1,180 likes, 1,223 followers, and 3,772 check-ins. A map in the "About" section shows the church's location on a street grid.



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@stewardshipforum.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://stewardshipforum.com/blog/>

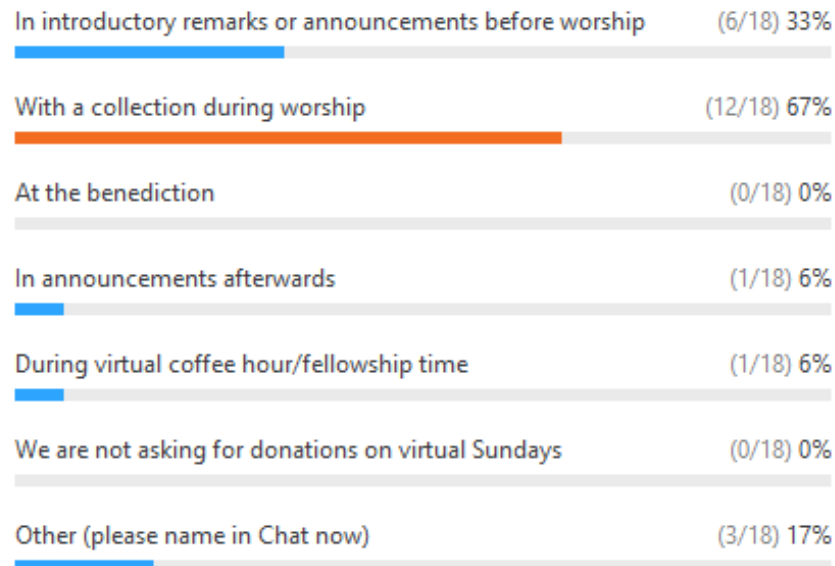


Poll Question

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)



Closing Words

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.



Closing Words (cont.)

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



Stewardship FOR US
Building Cultures of Generosity and Commitment



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Stewardship For Us (S4Us)

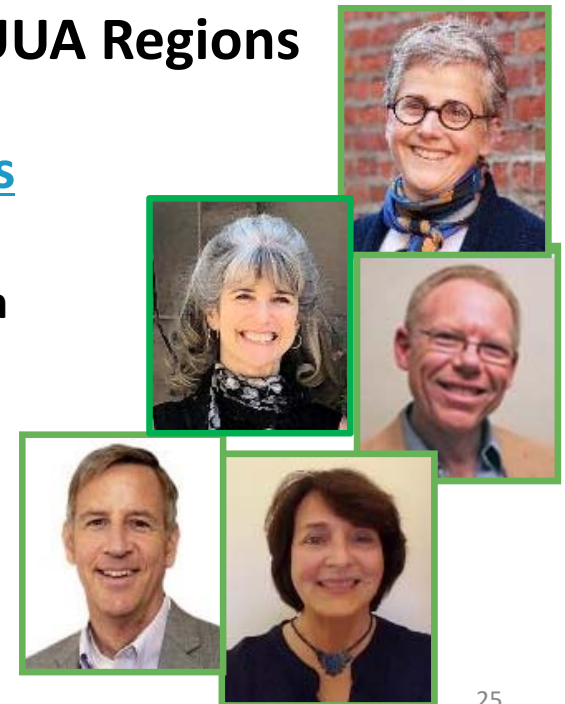
- **A two-decade tradition of stewardship support to Unitarian Universalists for all size congregations and clusters**
- **Coordinated with UUA Congregational Life and the UUA Regions**

- ✓ 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!



Resources

Virtual Stewardship Salon

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

Hosted by [UUA Stewardship and Development](#)

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>

Meeting ID: 650 678 9566



Resources

Stewardship For Us:

- Blog Postings – more frequent
- Weekly Stewardship Symposiums like these
 - **Fridays at 10am PT / 11am MT / 12pm CT / 1pm ET**
 - *Slides are posted on our blog after the Symposiums*
- 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!***

