

Important Information on UUCM Procedures in response to COVID-19; Live-Streaming Services starts this Sunday, March 15, 2020

Dear UUCM Members and Friends,

We send you this note in a time of fast paced change, as our wider community and our congregation's leadership work quickly to address the spread of COVID-19. Our first and most ardent hope is that you are well and that those you love are well. This hope compels us to remain connected to one another in community, even as we take measures to limit physical contact.

Our executive team of our Board met last evening, and in collaboration we have decided to move forward in this manner. Please stay tuned as these protocols may change on short notice.

This Sunday's Worship Service

Our 9:30 and 11:15 services on March 15, 2020 will be streamed* on Facebook Live via our public UUCM Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uumontclair/>.

We invite you to watch worship this Sunday in the comfort of your home, and send us feedback on the experience. As of now, for this Sunday, our doors will be open to members and guests, and we will engage appropriately with one another, keeping a safe distance while providing a warm welcome. There will be no Connection Cafe.

Please stay home if:

- you or anyone in your circles have cold or flu symptoms.
- you have respiratory issues or diabetes
- you are part of other at-risk populations
- you have traveled recently to areas suffering Covid-19 outbreaks
- you are not sure

There will be no Religious Education programming this Sunday.

Note: You do not need to have a Facebook account to view our streamed services. You just need to go to the provided link at the service time.

Sunday Worship Services, Beginning March 22nd

Our services will be virtual only. The 9:30 service will be streamed, then the video of the service will remain available for viewing on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uumontclair/> and a link will be made available on our website.

Efforts are beginning to imagine a virtual Connection Cafe and information inviting you to participate in this interactive online community is forthcoming.

Religious Education Programming

Religious Education Families should expect to receive details soon regarding the ways in which our congregation will remain in relationship with children, youth and families. Special work is being done to ensure that core programs continue virtually, and that families receive support during this challenging time.

Events

Large scale congregational events have been cancelled for the foreseeable future. Efforts will be made to ensure that these events are rescheduled and that the work that has gone into them is not lost.

Committee and Team Meetings and Small Group/Covenant Group Gatherings

Meetings and gatherings will be virtual only for the time being. Committee and Team leaders and Small Group/Covenant Group facilitators are encouraged to reach out to our Administrator, Danielle Carlo (admin@uumontclair.org) to schedule your meetings via our Zoom video and phone line. Danielle can also provide you with the simple instructions for running a Zoom meeting. You are also encouraged to utilize our [Realm database](#) which increases our capacity to connect, one to the other, when we are unable to meet in person.

Care

Our Care Team and our staff is mobilizing to support our community. Expect regular contact via our regular online platforms. In addition calls will be made to vulnerable community members and those that don't regularly utilize the internet. If you wish to be involved in these efforts of support, please be in touch with [Arlene Marin](#).

Rentals

Our long term existing rental contracts will continue to be honored until the town of Montclair or another governmental body issues an order that nullifies these contracts. We will however, cease from accepting any new rentals for one-time parties or events.

Should you have any needs or any questions please do not hesitate to reach out. Your Ministry Team and our Staff are ready to support you and to do whatever is necessary to maintain the blessing we know as community.

In Faith,
Rev. Anya and Rev. Scott and the UUCM Executive Team

**We would like to offer a special thanks to member Randy Crafton who provided the equipment, expertise, and effort to ensure that we were prepared to live stream our services. In addition we would like to thank members Jason Brome, Joe Palka, and Debbie Ann Tripoldi who were and remain instrumental in enabling us to offer streamed services.*

The UUCM Staff

[Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael](#), Senior Co-Minister

[Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael](#), Senior Co-Minister & Facilities Manager

[Antonia Bell-Delgado](#), Intern Minister

[Markus Grae-Hauck](#), Director of Music Ministries

[Lily Rappaport](#), Developmental Director of Family Ministries

[Judith Hogan](#), Religious Education Administrator

[Danielle Carlo](#), Administrator

[Jaclyn Puleo](#), Office & Communications Manager

[Emilia Sadonis](#), Bookkeeper

[Bruce For](#), Technology Systems Consultant

[Dawn Coleman](#), Head Custodian

The UUCM Executive Team

[Susan Rauffer](#), President

[Denise Rodgers](#), Vice President

[Chris Corbett](#), Treasurer

[Shannon Gattens](#), Secretary