

The Sunday Edition

*For the Unitarian Universalists of the Chester River
and
the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton*
March 15, 2020

A Reading You Would Have Heard ... If the service had not be cancelled

Try to Love the Questions Themselves
by Rainer Maria Rilke

Have patience with everything unresolved in your heart
and try to love the questions themselves

as if they were locked rooms
or books written in a very foreign language.

Don't search for the answers,
which could not be given to you now,
because you would not be able to live them.

And the point is, to live everything.

Live the questions now.

Perhaps then, someday far in the future,

you will gradually, without even noticing it,
live your way into the answer.

About this Week...From Rev. Sue

What a difference a week makes. I've asked around: "Can you think of anything we've been through before that was quite like this?" No one, so far, can think of anything that quite fits.

The waiting and uncertainty around Covid-19, which had been building this last month, shifted on Thursday. Thursday, March 12, 2020 will go down as the day society at large 'got' the need to act by "socially isolating" now. On Thursday, decision upon decision was made and cancellations everywhere were announced.

What is it going to mean to have as little in-person contact as possible? After the novelty wears off, what will this feel like?

Some will miss learning through classes and forums, others will miss shared meals and worship, and others will miss concerts and sports (even those whose only sport watching each year is March Madness!). We see the students who will lose a chance to perform in a last concert or game, and younger children who were excited for their first concert or game. When we scan the long lists of community cancellations, our hearts go out to the many who had been laboriously planning these events and are now left with what almost was. Or just maybe you find yourself quietly grateful for the temporary lull in activities.

This time of disruption will come with all of the above, and more. And too our thoughts are with those on the front lines in medical and first responder roles, and with those serving the public, for example at grocery stores, hotels and airports.

For this weekend I invite us to be honest about what we are feeling - our disappointments, our frustrations, our fears and even our curiosity about how the next weeks and months will emerge. I invite us to be aware of the ways we are used to connecting, and what we miss. Awareness can lead down interesting paths.

We enter the week with our questions. Please be in touch if there is anything you need.

In care,
Rev. Sue

What's Will 'Church' Look Like Over the Next Weeks?

The short answer is we don't know. For this Sunday we took a break from worship. Our guess is we won't have in-person worship for at least another week or two. Our goal will be to stay connected and to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our members and friends. We are open to staying connected in creative ways. Have ideas? Please forward them to Rev. Sue at sue.browning2@gmail.com, or to the church offices at uufe@goeaston.net or uufchesterriver@gmail.com. Together we will figure out our next steps.

Also, if you need help with shopping or picking up supplies, please let us know in the offices, and if you are able to help others with basic needs please let us know you'd like to be on our lists. It's in these ways we can be communities which supports one another.

For Our Younger Learners (or anyone in a coloring mode!)

- print and check it out!

