

Worship Committee

Annual Report, May 2020

- A responsibility of The Worship Committee is to **schedule thirty-seven (37) Sunday Worship Services** for the church year 2020 which runs from September 8th (Sunday after Labor Day) through May 24th, (Sunday before Memorial Day.) The traditional 'Eve of the Eve' service, held in the evening of December 23, brings the **anticipated total number** of services in 2019-2020 to thirty-eight (38).
The scheduling was completed and services were held until **the outbreak of the Corona Virus in March taking Worship on a new trajectory for the final months of Worship services** .
- **This onset of the Corona Virus dictated the following changes to Worship:** UUCR cancelled Sunday Services held in the Sanctuary as of March 15. In the following days, a Tech Team was created to include both UUCR and UUFE members. With their combined talent and dedication, they enabled 'Virtual Sunday Services' to be held online for both congregations as early as March 22. These Sunday Virtual Services have been especially meaningful and appreciated by members and friends, both locally and from afar. Under Rev. Sue's leadership the purpose of Worship, which is to inspire, strengthen and support our UU values, has continued despite the challenges we face.
- **The following traditional UUCR services** were (will be) held: Incoming Service in September, Bread Communion Service in November, Eve of the Eve Christmas Service, Earth Day Service presented by the Green Sanctuary Committee in April, *and we anticipate having Flower Communion in May.*
- **Our invited speakers** this year were mainly Unitarian Universalists, both ordained and seminarians. Several other faith traditions were invited, as well as Non-clergy who shared their sense of the spiritual through their work addressing discrimination, environment, poverty, race and gun violence.
- **Regarding music at services:** In the fall of 2019, UUCR hired Carol West as a full time accompanist. For medical reasons Carol was unable to continue in this position. The late fall /winter months had Philip Dutton and Bill Lindsay accompanying our Sunday services. In March, Gerry Werner became our full time accompanist.
- **We had two 'guest musicians'** this year providing 'Special Music' during Sunday services: Jeff Davis (guitar) and Tom Anthony (Bass).
- The Worship Committee will meet to discuss how best to hold the 13 weeks of **informal Summer Services**, which begin the first Sunday after Memorial Day and continue through Labor Day. In the past, the Worship Committee enlisted congregants and 'friends' who chose a topic for a presentation and/or discussion.
- Worship continues to send out **weekly emails** as reminders of upcoming Sunday services each Tuesday. These include information on the sermon, speaker, music and any 'special collection.'

The Worship Committee is comprised of six (6) members. Kim Agee, Vida Morley, Nancy Holland, Marilee Taussig, Margo Long and Annie Lavin. Five members are Service Leaders. Rev. Sue also attends our meetings. At these meetings and throughout the year she is a valuable resource and support to Worship.

Respectfully submitted for the committee,
Annie Lavin