Dear Unity Family,

During these times of change and physical separation, we know we all miss seeing one another in person. We trust you are finding your way to our many points of connection online and keeping well. This note is to touch base and share a few Unity of Walnut Creek updates.

As you know, we are following the guidelines set forth by the State of California and Contra Costa County Health Services. We celebrate the news that the physical distancing measures we are taking as a region and state have greatly helped to slow the spread of Covid-19. Testing for the coronavirus is now available in our area as well.

**PRAYER SUPPORT & WELLNESS CALLS**

Some of you have dealt with loss of employment or family separation challenges (such as not getting to see loved ones who are hospitalized, in nursing homes, live outside your home or far away). Our prayer team, prayer chaplains, staff and board hold all of you in our prayers and encourage you to continue to share your prayer intentions with us. To date, our prayer chaplains and volunteers have made 500 wellness calls to active participants and members of UWC. The purpose of these calls is to connect, check-in, offer prayer and see if you have immediate needs for help getting groceries or medicine. We are now embarking on a third round of wellness calls and we trust you find this occasional touchstone supportive. Big thanks to Susan Angelos, Annie Love-Villiers and Veronica Wolfe for coordinating these calls.

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

At 10am every Sunday our Youth & Family Ministry continues to gather via Zoom under the leadership of Michelle Cicala to connect and share spiritual inspiration through song, prayer, yoga, stories, artwork and more.

At 11:30am every Sunday we livestream our service from my (Kristin) and Brenlee’s home. I want to express deep appreciation for the amazing Production Team (Larry Curtin, Shari Dyer, Annie Love-Villiers, Diana Mesetz, John Nichols, Lisa and Tyler Snortum-Phelps and Peter Weiler) behind the scenes that makes that happen. This team has made above-and-beyond contributions to these services. An immense amount of time and talent continues to be generously shared with us by John Nichols who is the solo on-site technician for all aspects of AV each week. Without John’s leadership, devotion and talent, we would be hard-pressed to offer the caliber of services with the stay-at-home model. We look forward to the opportunity for all of us to thank John and our Production Team in person at some future date. Our full services and messages are all archived and you may watch any of them at your leisure. We would love to see you on Sundays too. Please send your “wavies” (30-second waving videos) to...
office@unityofwalnutcreek.org and log onto the Virtual Patio Conversation after service to connect. To help us provide mobile streaming, please subscribe to our YouTube channel with all of your email addresses and invite your friends and family! Our goal is to have 1,000 subscribers.

ONGOING EVENTS, MAY WORKSHOP & CONCERT
Now that we know our stay-at-home orders are in place until May 31, we can share with greater assurance our plans for the balance of this month. There is an ever-growing list of online offerings from Unity teachers, facilitators and guests. In addition to the Coronavirus as a Calling workshop by Gregg Levoy we hosted on May 3, we have two more special events scheduled this month. The first is a gathering on Affirmative Prayer Partnerships guided by Rev. Kristin and her prayer partner of 18 years, Rev. Darlene Strickland, on Thursday, May 21, 4-5:30pm via Zoom. We are thrilled to share that celebrated New Thought artist Daniel Nahmod will offer spiritual inspiration in a livestreamed concert on Sunday, May 31 at 7pm, also via Zoom. Please find more details on all our events here (accessed in the middle of our website homepage for your future reference).

LABYRINTH UPDATE & BRICK BLESSING FUNDRAISER
Nancy Lojacono is engaged in a labor of love involving many devoted hours for our forthcoming seven-circuit Chartes Essence labyrinth. Thank you, Nancy! To date, we have re-set our irrigation system to water existing and potential plants on the perimeter of the labyrinth. The outer labyrinth edging is in and some wires are laid for ambient lighting. One or two individuals at a time are now invited to assist Nancy at a six-foot distance with masks. If you would like to help with the build, please email Nancy at NLojacono@comcast.net.

Many of you have requested information on how to buy and bless bricks. Thank you for asking! A self-service station is set up on the Unity patio where you may write a blessing on your brick with your own sharpie or paint pen. You may also send us the blessing you would like written on a brick to office@unityofwalnutcreek.org and a staff member will write it for you. If you choose to come in person, please wear a mask, use the provided hand sanitizer, and keep a six-foot distance from others. You may make your donation online through PayPal, the Gyve app or leave a check in the secure office mail slot. Please clearly memo any donations for the labyrinth in the online comment field or memo line of your check. Brick prices are: 1 for $25, 5 for $100 and 10 for $150. The brick blessing will close May 31. Thank you for your gifts and participation in this exciting project.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Finances as of April 30:


From a financial perspective, we are holding steady, in part because of your continued financial support combined with the relief UWC has received so far. While our year to date net income is not what we’d hope, April was a strong month and we are still projecting that we will be able to
maintain a positive cash flow through the end of the year without having to dip into our brokerage account.

As noted during our community gathering on April 9, UWC applied for both the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) and the SBA EIDL relief made available under the CARES Act signed in late March. Our PPP application was approved in the second round on May 2, and we have already received $41,000 to support payroll and utility expenses through the next few months. We’re still in line for the SBA review process and remain hopeful that additional relief will be approved soon.

Additionally, we were granted a 3-month payment deferment with our mortgage lender for both properties, which is estimated to be around $29,000 in reduced spending through June.

All this is helping to keep us in abundant flow. We are truly grateful for your continued gifts and support for the UWC community.

Please stay in touch and let us know if we can support your journey further by contacting us at office@unityofwalnutcreek.org, through our website or by calling the office at 925.937.2191.

We are holding a prayerful space for all of you. It is with soulful resilience, mindful awareness and open-hearted curiosity that we walk together through this potent time of worldly transformation and spiritual awakening. Let’s continue to make the best of our collective situation and know in truth that we can never be separated from one another or Spirit. One breath, one prayer, one click – brings us together again.

In Love & Faith,

Kristin Powell
Lead Minister

Diana Mesetz
Board President

P.S. Happy Mother’s Day to all the moms and those who share mother qualities with others. The world needs your love and care.