

# OUR CHURCH LIFE

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country  
Newsletter

May 2020



## Looking Ahead...

The Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country Service Committee and Board of Directors are currently planning **possible virtual services in May**. The current plan is to offer them on the Zoom platform.

If you are not familiar with Zoom, it is one of the leading video conferencing software apps on the market.

It allows you to virtually interact with folks when in-person meetings aren't possible. This makes telecommuting seem much more human, as it helps you

feel connected. With the COVID-19 coronavirus wreaking havoc across the world, for instance, Zoom has become an essential tool for teams that want to keep in touch and continue their daily workflows with minimal disruption. Many of you may have been keeping in touch with your families utilizing Zoom now and in the past.

**How do I “Zoom”?** If you are getting this newsletter via email, you're already set! You will receive a notification of an upcoming virtual service via email and will simply click on the provided code. It's that easy. There will be no password or meeting ID. It doesn't matter if you have a camera on your computer, you can still participate!

Currently, plans are being made for virtual services on **Sunday, May 17 and 24** featuring with possibly an outdoor service on **Sunday, May 31**. The guest speaker will be Kerrville Mayor **Bill Blackburn** and his talk is titled **“Caring Friends”**.

## Upcoming May Commemorations:

**Sunday, May 10 - Mother's Day**

**Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day**

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Check out our Facebook page



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## UUCHC KINDNESS ROCKS

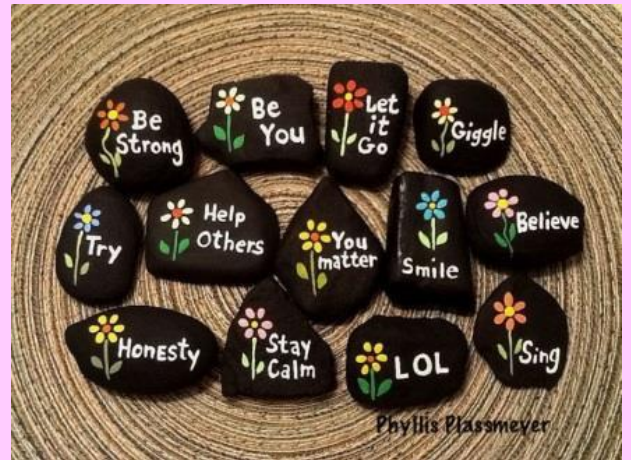
*By Judy Ashcraft*

It is sad that we do not get to visit each other as we used to or were accustomed to. Neighbors and friends stay indoors and hardly speak to each other except on the phone maybe. Some are lucky enough to get out for a walk or hike in the, now quiet, parks and trails.

However, there is a way to say hello or encourage those who may need a pat on the back, a smile, or just need a reminder that we are all in this together. Let us put out anonymous notes and signs of happy thoughts through "Kindness Rocks".

When you are out walking or working in your own yard look for flat smooth stones. They should be larger than a quarter and smaller than your palm.

Clean them, paint them (be creative - see suggestions), seal them and place in the park, parking lot islands, at the base of mailboxes, on the grass near a step or sidewalk, and anywhere someone may walk by. Then take a picture and post on the church Facebook page. Let's see who says they saw your rocks in place.



## What are the steps in creating Kindness Rocks?

- ⊕ Step One: Find Rocks
- ⊕ Step Two: Clean Rocks
- ⊕ Step Three: Paint Rocks
- ⊕ Step Four: Protect Rocks (hairspray, clear nail polish, etc.)
- ⊕ Step Five: Place Rock (in a conspicuous place)
- ⊕ Step Six: Picture & Post Rocks on Facebook



To maintain our beloved community, below are some web sites and suggestions for our period of physical distancing.

- ⊕ First, sign up to the Church of the Larger Fellowship, [www.clfuu.org](http://www.clfuu.org). They are providing weekly sermons on Sunday evenings via Zoom, the minister provides weekly inspirational talks if you sign up for them, and there is a monthly newsletter.

**Other tools for networking:**

- ⊕ <https://austinuu.org/wp2013/first-UU-Austin-livestream/>
- ⊕ Rev Peter Bauer's writings: <https://thriveglobal.com/authors/peter-e-bauer/page/> and <https://medium.com/@revpeterbauer/you-cant-cancel-life-6d6fe0c88dc5>
- ⊕ Follow UUCHC on Facebook for conversation, thoughts, and humor. **It will help.**
- ⊕ Next, call and check on each other. If you are at low risk and can shop or assist someone who is home bound, please let Frances Osborne know. She will assemble a list of the helpers and we will publish them.
- ⊕ Call the next person on the directory list just to see how they are. The latest directory list and roster are attached. Call Frances Osborne and check in. She is in special need of our community now.
- ⊕ Finally, stop, slow down and reflect on this time at home. Take a drive to enjoy the TX Hill Country beauty. Read a book; clean out that closet. Help someone if you can either in person or by telephone. This is a good time for our country to reconnect with who we should be, and we can lead by example even more so in the days to come.

-Jerry Best, UUCHC Board President  
-UUCS Sunday Services Committee



*Remember...*

Even though we are, sadly, not gathering and are staying apart, there is still need for contributions to the Church. Please send your pledge or other contribution to the church by mail. Thank you.

-Mike Burkett, Finance Chair



**Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country  
Board Members for 2020**

**President ~ Jerry Best**

210-633-7553/ [bestjerry@hotmail.com](mailto:bestjerry@hotmail.com)

**Vice President ~ Vicki Luther**

830.496-3205/ [vbluther@twc.com](mailto:vbluther@twc.com)

**Secretary - Jill Wiggins**

512.965-9947/ [jillyrosemary@gmail.com](mailto:jillyrosemary@gmail.com)

**Treasurer ~ Judy Bunch**

830.459-8509/ [dbunch@stx.rr.com](mailto:dbunch@stx.rr.com)

**Member at Large - Don Pyle**

575.534-8259/ [dtpyle@gmail.com](mailto:dtpyle@gmail.com)

**Sunday Services: Donna Schloss,  
Vicki Luther & Linda Smith**

Wayside Pulpit, Coffee Set-Up, Music/Choir, Greeters,  
Order of Service, Chalice Table, Service Schedule/Associates

**Spiritual Development Chair: Vicki Luther**

Life Span Development (Adult and Children's Religious  
Education), Free Speech Café, Forums

**Membership Chair: Gary Payne**

Congregational Care, Visitor Follow-Up, Exit Interviews,  
New Member Orientation, Emergency Phone Tree,  
Members/Friends List

**Outreach/Social Justice Committee Chair:**

**Frances Osborne**

La Casa de Raices, TXUUJM, PFLAG, Habitat for Humanity,  
Hill Country Crisis Center, Texas IMPACT,  
Transportation Planning Council

**Finance Committee Chair: Mike Burkett**

Stewardship, Budget, Building/Grounds  
Financial Management & Reports

**Activities/Events Chair: Judy Ashcraft**

Special Social Events, Recurring Events, Building Usage

**Communications Chair: Open**

[communication@uuchc.org](mailto:communication@uuchc.org)

Electronic Media (Facebook & web site): Amanda Biemer  
Newsletter/Weekly Calendar Update: Susan Lipp