

Dear Unity of Fairfax Friends,

In May, a Reopening Task Team made up of staff and community members was formed to make recommendations to Rev. Russ and the Unity of Fairfax Board of Trustees that would articulate the parameters under which Unity of Fairfax could safely reopen to in-person gatherings.

This Reopening Task Team considered many factors including, but not limited to:

1. Community Survey Results
2. COVID-19 Mandatory Guidelines and Best Practices from the CDC , Commonwealth of Virginia, and Fairfax County
3. Current COVID-19 metrics in the Washington Metropolitan Area

The recommendation presented to the Board at its July meeting was to maintain only virtual worship and activities through the remainder of 2020.

The Board unanimously agreed to the recommendation of the Reopening Task Team; however, the Board will reconsider this decision at its October meeting based on any re-evaluation of the situation provided by the Reopening Task Team. Therefore, Unity of Fairfax will continue with our current model of online-only ministry and worship activities until further notice.

The building and grounds remain open for staff and essential volunteers only following proper safety guidelines. Likewise, the Labyrinth and Meditation Garden are open and available for individual use following safety guidelines.

It is our affirmation that public health conditions will improve enough to allow us to consider reopening before January 2021; however, there is no guarantee this will be possible. The Reopening Task Team will continue to monitor the situation and to communicate its findings to Rev. Russ and the Board of Trustees.

Together, we have responded to this crisis as a community of faith filled with courage, creativity, and resilience. We are grateful for the ways you have been faithful in prayer, study, service, and generosity. Thank you for

your continued support as we seek to change lives and transform our community with the love of God. We will continue to brave this wilderness together by following the guidance of Spirit as we navigate uncharted territory and discover innovative ways to awaken each life to the Christ within!

With hope and courage,

Rev. Russell Heiland

John Kell, First Chair
Unity of Fairfax Board of Trustees