

Members and Friends,

By now, we have all heard the concerns regarding the rapidly changing situation with COVID-19, coronavirus, which has now been classified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Because people without symptoms can pose a serious risk to others, prevention through reduced contact is essential. With that in mind, we at the St Croix Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (SCUUF) are suspending face-to-face gatherings and are moving towards connecting in other ways starting immediately and until further notice.

This decision to shift our programming was made in consultation with the SCUUF Steering Committee and the Sunday Services Committee. We know that our Sunday gatherings are an important source of support and connection for many of us. These unusual times draw on us to be creative in finding ways to garner support and care for ourselves as well as provide support to others in our community of friends and neighbors. In order to do this at a time when personal contact is not recommended, we will have to be creative in determining ways to stay connected.

Starting this coming Sunday, March 15th, we will not gather in St Croix Falls. We do have an opportunity to participate in a virtual gathering; we are invited to join the First Unitarian Society (FUS) through the video platform Zoom. Zoom is an easy-to-use online video service utilized by hundreds of congregations around the country. Folks can use their phone or computer to see a live stream of the FUS service. It will require an internet connection or data stream and is easy to join through one click on the link below.

For pastoral concerns, Rev. Kelli is available via phone, text, or email to help. If you need the support of the SCUUF community, please reach out. Additionally, if you know someone from the SCUUF community who may need support, please reach out to them via phone or email. Sometimes just having someone check-in can make all the difference. These are going to be isolating times, and we will need our technology to help us stay connected.

The SCUUF Steering Committee and Sunday Services Committee will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will use the SCUUF newsletter, website, and Facebook page to keep everyone up to date on planned efforts to stay connected through virtual events. We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time.

In love and solidarity,

Reverend Kelli Clement and Ann Turner, SCUUF Moderator

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