

Remember that hand game we played as kids along with the words “here is the church, here is the steeple, open the doors and out come the people”? Well, on July 25th we change the ending to “open the doors and IN come the people”. After 16 months of worshipping together online we will finally be able to see each other again. It will be wonderful and it will be different. The service itself will look very much the same but there will be some additional protocols we will be observing to keep everyone safe and included. These include:

- \* A sign in sheet in the case of needing to do contact tracing. Hand sanitizers will be in and outside of the building and we are encouraged to use them.
- \* **Everyone** will need to wear masks inside of the building. Those not having a mask will be given one by the greeters. Those who cannot wear a mask or decline will be given a paper with a link to the virtual service which they may enjoy outside the building on their phone.
- \* There will be no in person choir yet or singing by the congregation. All music will be pre-recorded due to challenges of presenting live music virtually.
- \* There will be no printed Order of Service for the time being. The Order will be on the screens as has always been the case but you may certainly print out your OOS at home and bring it with you if you like.
- \* Services will be hybrid, meaning both those in person and those away can experience it.
- \* There will be no coffee hour yet for safety purposes.
- \* We will continue to have greeters and will observe social distancing.
- \* **All** cell phones and other electronic devices will need to be **turned off** (or better yet left outside or at home) so they do not interfere with the IT equipment and the team’s ability to deliver a reverb/echo free service to those at home.
- \* Service leaders, chalice keepers, sharing of abundance speakers and guest speakers may be onsite OR virtual.
- \* We will observe joys, sorrows, and concerns and those at home may type their concern or joy in the chat box or simply their name without divulging the specifics.
- \* Congregants will be asked to take their seats upon arriving at the church so as to practice social distancing. Please ask and get permission before touching or hugging your friends. Some of us are much more vulnerable than others. Please indicate your joy at seeing each other through a blown kiss, a namaste bow, or pat your heart. Please do **not** gather in

groups to talk (except outside and distanced) or walk about in the sanctuary. **We are trying to ensure that we all stay healthy and COVID free so we can return to worship week after week. Please show your love by grabbing your seat and distancing.**

**The greatest joy of all is that our beloved Reverent Janet will be in person on July 25th and August 1st.** August 1st will be her last day with us and it will be a celebratory and honoring day for her and for her beautiful ministry to us at Tri-UU. Just as we had some hiccups when we started virtual services, we won't be surprised if there are a few hiccups moving to hybrid services. But it means that those of us who can be there in person, AND those of us who can't because we're snow birds or of a more vulnerable population or have transportation issues can continue to enjoy and worship with our precious community. Looking forward to being together again so very soon. In gratitude for everyone's patience, resilience, and enthusiasm. You are each loved and appreciated.  
- Lynne Westmoreland, Ivett Garza and Dan Wolfe