



Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation

*A Home for Spiritual Growth, Free
Thought and Loving Action*

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NUUC COVID-19 Response Plan

COMMUNICATION

- NUUC's primary communication tools will be our e-mail blast system and the NUUC website
- Any member or friend who would like to sign up for email blasts should send a request to Admin@NamaquaUU.org
- Announcements and information will be posted on the church's website: www.NamaquaUU.org in the Events box at top right on home page.
- To post an announcement, send notice to nuuc@NamaquaUU.org
- General instructions on managing contagion will be posted at all church doors
- Church leaders including Minister, Board of Trustees, CoSM and others will monitor daily announcements from the Center for Disease Control (www.CDC.gov), Larimer County Health Department (www.larimer.org/health) and UUA (www.UUA.org)

CANCELLING SERVICES and PROGRAMS

- As per established NUUC policy, services and programs may be cancelled by consensus of at least two of the following people: Minister, President, Chair of COSM, Ministry Chair or program/activity lead
- When services/programs are cancelled, the activity lead will make (or delegate) every effort to contact participants directly by email or phone as well as notice on website as appropriate.
- Virtual services via the internet will be planned by Minister and Worship Associates as technically possible and announcement/instructions made via email blasts and on website

PROTECTIVE PRACTICES

- Practice 'social distancing' by staying at least 6' from other individuals
- Cleaning/Disinfecting Surfaces
- CDC-approved chlorine and alcohol-based (at least 60%) solutions and disposable paper towels will be used after each building use to wipe down all surfaces which may have been touched including pews, tables, chairs, light/heat switches doorknobs, railings, faucet handles in both kitchen and rest rooms
- Cleaners should wear protective gloves while cleaning
- NUUC Janitor will be responsible for weekly cleaning
- Activity organizer will be responsible for cleaning & disinfecting all surfaces touched during their programs. Cleaning responsibility will be included in Building Use Guidelines.

(Continued on page 2)

**NUUC meets each Sunday
at 10:00 am at our home**
745 East 5th Street
Loveland, Colorado

Contact Us: 970-685-0427

Find us on the web
www.NamaquaUU.org

Follow us on



[@NamaquaUU](https://www.instagram.com/NamaquaUU)

(Continued from page 1)

- Refreshments at services will be limited to commercially wrapped food items and juices. No home-made finger foods will be allowed.
- If non-disposable dishes/flatware/serving pieces are used, they must be washed in the dishwasher, not hand-washed.
- Multiple containers of hand-sanitizer, disinfecting wipes/spray will be made available in both sanctuary and Parker Hall as available.
- NUUC staff and volunteers should work remotely as much as possible

CARING FOR EACH OTHER

- Stay home if you are ill, especially with a fever or cough
- If any member/friend would like 'wellness checks' (a church member to call you regularly to stay in touch and reduce social isolation), please contact Pastoral Care Team at PastoralCare@NamaquaUU.org and they will set up a system
- If you would like assistance with groceries or other urgent supplies, please contact Pastoral Care who will arrange for home delivery (leaving on front porch/garage)
- If you are ill, please let either the minister or PCT know. They will respect your confidentiality as you wish.
- Pastoral Care has a modest Emergency Fund for folks who are financially vulnerable, if you are in need contact PCT

**ABOVE ALL USE WELL-INFORMED
COMMON SENSE WHEN MAKING
ANY DECISIONS**

Upcoming Services

April 5: Laughter in the Age of Coronavirus - Andy Carlson and Kathy Hartman, Worship Associates

Laughter, so they say, is the best medicine. If only this were true, given how many out-of-work comedians we now have...

In fact, laughter has probably never cured a common cold. But while a well-timed joke will rarely make a bad situation better, humor can help us better cope with that bad situation. In fact, proving just what an odd species we are, the worse a situation gets, the darker our humor often becomes—and the funnier our jokes. As Namaqua's Third Non-Annual Joke Service goes virtual, we will explore the strange world of dark humor, indulging in a bit of it ourselves, in a quest to figure out how those groaners that we are embarrassed to find ourselves chuckling over may actually be helping us get through the biggest crisis our world has faced in decades.

April 12: Reclaiming Easter Through Its Origins - Rev. Laurel Liefert & Janen Wright, Director of Religious Education

Spring with its miraculous renewal of life calls for celebrating more than any other time of year. Join us this Easter Sunday as we look to our pagan roots for hope and meaning in celebrating the true meaning of Easter together.

April 19: The Call of Earth Day - Rev. Laurel Liefert & Peter Schenk, Worship Associate

We live in a time of Great Turning. Greta Thunberg, in her famous TED talk, urges us "to panic" and then "to act as if your house is on fire. Because it is." We still need to keep hope alive, but a new kind of hope. As in Rev. Karen G. Johnston's blog: "Hope comes as resilience in reckoning with our utter vulnerability. Hope comes in being able to watch the horrifying images of what has been lost alongside the beautiful ones of this majestic, corrupted world." April 22, 2020 will mark 50 years of Earth Day. What are we called to do in this time of Great Turning?

April 26: Surrender: The Path of Losing Yourself in Order to Find Yourself - Rev. Laurel Liefert & Susan Moody, Worship Associate

Julia Cameron, author of the book *The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity*, wrote "the creative process is a process of surrender, not control." As we wake up each day now to a world we barely recognize, losing sight of the shore of the familiar, perhaps we can use this time to surrender to "the inherently mysterious spiritual heart of creativity." A silver lining to the isolation of quarantine may be an opportunity to venture into your own unique heart of creativity.

President's Message

Here's hoping this message finds you well! "Fare thee well!" takes on new meaning in times like these.

Cam and I were on a trip to Utah week before last to see daughters and grandchildren and ski. This, after she had skied Breckenridge. Word came from the Colorado Department of Health – the wonders of internet communication – that anyone who had been in Summit county that week should self-quarantine. Sigh.

We checked with our daughters (and ourselves), and, perhaps unwisely, continued our visit, now maintaining physical distance, difficult to do around grandchildren. The ski areas closed, to which we couldn't have gone anyway. Back home, we've "sheltered in place". Daughters have done two food runs for us. Our 14-day quarantine ends today but we'll not go out unless we really need to.

If you're in need of a food run or a pharmacy run, you can let our pastoral team know and they'll help: PastoralCare@namaquauu.org.

Questions and uncertainty abound, and both Cam and I find ourselves fixated on the latest breaking news – which really doesn't evolve very quickly. The big questions remain unanswered and to-be-experienced: Will I or loved ones or friends become ill? Will our medical infrastructure be up to the task? Can we successfully 'flatten the curve' so as not to overwhelm it? How long will social isolation last? (2 months? 4?) How can the country help in this time of isolation, especially the unemployed and incarcerated? How can we help other countries, at a time when energies are focused so inwardly on ourselves? Will the interdependent global economy recover afterward, and how quickly?

All this uncertainty, along with the changes in lifestyle, are stressful. We're under stress, and need to make allowances.

As I write, a sunrise paints the clouds to the west a brilliant orange. I'm safe, and can take a deep breath. There's a loved one I'm worried about, as I should be, showing some of the symptoms. We'll monitor and help if we can. All one step at a time – and a good time to notice sunrises and breaths.

I find myself doing gear-shifting. Many of my things-to-do are blocked or just not happening – like our **Annual Auction** is on hold until we can do social events, though Kathy Hartman has started some thinking around how we might do a virtual one. I've still a pretty decent To-Do list; might be a time to get to some I've been putting off. And a time to better appreciate the gift of being alive.

Our congregation's interconnected web is adapting and functioning. We're holding **on-line Sunday Services** – see the **website**, Namaquauu.org, for the latest-and-greatest information on how to join. It's been so good to connect at the services! Work is underway on our audio quality and how we can do **adult enrichment classes** too, on-line. Check our weekly email blast or the website for info.

The **pledge drive** is making progress and is *so necessary*. As I write we've pledged \$116,000 toward our goal of \$160,000, which would include more administrative help and a (very part-time) Music Director. If you haven't made your pledge yet, you can send it in by regular mail to Namaqua at 745 East 5th Street, Loveland, CO 80537, or let our pledge co-coordinator Brian Jarvis know by email, bjarvis363@aol.com.

Stay safe, stay connected, and **fare thee well!**

Doug



A letter from your Treasurer

Dear fellow UUs;

These are trying times that have thrown our lives into an unprecedented degree of uncertainty, concern, and downright fear. However we as a nation and the world have faced worse situations and survived to see better days. My parents lived through both the Spanish (it had nothing to do with Spain. It started in Kansas!) Flu pandemic of 1918 and the Depression of 1929-1940. Unfortunately we are getting some of both at the same time. Our lives will be different, but not necessarily worse.

I trust that you are following the procedures recommended by the Center for Disease Control [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus) that keep you safe and help stop the spread of the Coronavirus, COVID-19. Your primary objective for the next few months is to not catch the virus.

As the Treasurer of NUUC, I want to thank those who have paid their pledges to date and already sent in their pledges for 2020/2021. If you have not done these things, please do so. Although we are not conducting our Sunday services in our lovely sanctuary and many other activities have been canceled, it is done for your protection from this terrible contagious virus.

These are difficult financial times for everyone, including NUUC. We are evaluating what expenses can be delayed or reduced, but 67% of the budget is for personnel salaries and there will be no reduction in this area. We consider our employees as a long term commitment. In addition they are critical to our mission, our values, and our beloved community. Another 12% of the budget is for upkeep and maintenance of our building. My greater concern is that our budget includes income items that may fall short of the budgeted amounts. One is the auction, which will either not take place, or in a very different manner. Another is the plate collections, where a shortfall not only impacts NUUC, but also our half plate recipients. I request that you keep up your pledge payments. If your personal situation makes that impossible, please let me know, so I can plan accordingly.

We do not know how long COVID-19 and the resultant financial turmoil will last, but it is important that you send in your pledges for next year, so we have a basis for the FY20/21 budget. To date we have \$116,000 pledged towards our goal of \$160,000. It will require \$150,000 just to maintain our normal level of activities. Anything less than that will require some very hard choices. Brian Jarvis and Leonard Sokoloski have put together a fine annual budget drive. We need to support their efforts by sending in our pledges for FY20/21.

Stay safe and protect yourselves and your families. Like past crises, we will survive this one and be stronger for it.

Sincerely,
Dick Barton

Live our vision, which is: to Radiate Love, Peace, and Justice.

COVID-19 Response from NUUC Pastoral Care Team

Dear Namaqua Community—

These are indeed challenging times for everyone. While we want to support ‘flattening the curve’ and help minimize impact of the virus, we recognize that social isolation can also bring its own issues. The PCT is ready to help you cope. Certainly if you’re sick (for any reason), let us know. We can still arrange meals and rides to medical appointments. Need groceries, but avoiding large stores? Try looking at the King Sooper, Safeway and Walmart websites for information on on-line ordering. Then contact PCT for assistance picking them up. Would you like someone to talk with on a regular basis? Again, PCT can help set that up. If you need short term financial help, we do have the Pastoral Care Discretionary Fund.

And, please, if you can help with any of these activities, we welcome your gifts. For help or to offer assistance, please contact us at PastoralCare@NamaquaUU.org.

In community,
Cindy Black, Els Deininger, Sally Henry & Laurel Liefert
Your Pastoral Care Team



Religious Education

April 2020 RE Reflection and Report

Our theme for April is **liberation** which comes at an interesting time, while every day we are looking at further restrictions. I'm sure we would all like to be liberated from the worry of such upheaval in the world and all the complications it entails. It is a time of great uncertainty and concern. One thing is sure, when we *are* able to resume normal life we will more deeply appreciate the freedoms that are so easy to overlook in our normal lives-- such as meeting together in person!

There are many levels of liberation and when I look back over my life, personal liberation has often been something that I *could* give myself, and the freedom of suffering came only when I was fed up with it enough that I became determined to move on. I like the idea that there are small liberations we can grant ourselves even now in this time of crisis that will give us purpose, strength, and hope (and help to lower our stress levels.)

Have you ever had a plant that suddenly began losing leaves and looking dreary, even though it had abundant sunshine and water? Chances are it was time for a bigger pot and new soil that wasn't depleted of nutrients. My neighbor with a green thumb told me plants need to be repotted every two years on average. Sure enough, when I looked at the bottom of *my* unhappy plant it's roots were in a white tangled mess trying to push through the ceramic confining it. Putting it in a larger pot was the only way to liberate my plant so it could continue to thrive.

I have always loved the quote by Anais Nin, "***And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.***" Sometimes life forces us to leave the comfort of the familiar whether or not we want to. We are all experiencing some level of this now. What are the opportunities for growth that are embedded in the struggle we face? How could we connect on a stronger level with our loved ones? What is it that you've always wanted to do that maybe you could start towards during this time of confinement? Something you never quite seemed to have time for in the hustle of everyday life? Even undertaking small quests can make a positive difference to our mental health and our mindset.

In this age of entertainment there are many ways to escape, but I find that sometimes putting a higher value on our time brings greater reward. I had a yoga teacher that often said, "So often the thing we *think* we need is the exact opposite of what it is we really need." I have tested this and often find it to be true.

Our children at NUUC grow before our eyes and opportunity and challenge is built into their lives as they reach each new stage. Maybe that is what gives them their vitality and enthusiasm. I feel privileged, like many of you do, to work with our NUUC teens and kids. I miss them already and anticipate our reunion! In the meantime, during this isolation period, each week I will send out a lesson you can do as a family if you want to and my ministry team and I will set up a virtual meeting for the kids sometime during the first weeks of April. Take care of them and yourselves! I am here if you need me.

Blessings,
Janen Wright, Director of Religious Education



Minister's Musings



You Can Count On Me

Dear Beloved Community,

This strange, disorienting, sometimes fearful time requires so much letting go. Personally, Francey and I have had to let go of a long-awaited visit from our son Marcus and grandson Henry. We let go of having our niece Marita, daughter of my sister Carolyn who died in February, come to Colorado for the first time and go snowboarding with our other son David, who goes to school in Laramie, WY. Henry's other grandmother, Susan, Marcus's mother-in-law, was planning to stay with us in April while she attended a Non-Violent Communication conference. I admit I'm grateful that our family was able to gather in Fresno, CO in early March for the Celebration of Life for Carolyn, returning safely to CO and in time to stay at home. What have you had to let go of in your life?

I miss you! The monthly pages of my Franklin calendar are full of X's crossing out all of the meetings and other activities we had planned, such as the Facing Death With Life, Starting Point, and Artist's Way classes, the choir rehearsals in anticipation of the Easter Sunday service, our monthly Drum Circles and Open Mic Night, the Minute to Win It Game Night... I was so disappointed not to have the March 22nd service we had planned in which we were to welcome and covenant with new members and our fledgling UUkes were to make our debut. I was also disappointed not to have the play WomenSpeak, written by Namaqua member Barbara Fleming, on March 29th. We will reschedule both of those services once we can begin meeting again in person.

But life goes on, and there are many blessings in how we are adapting as a community to the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fortunately, so far our members and friends are healthy and safe. And what a joy it is in our virtual Sunday services that started last month to see and hear one another! For those of you who may not yet have participated, you can find the instructions to join by computer or phone on our website (www.NamaquaUU.org). At a time when so much of our lives are not the same as before, it can be a comfort to count on the rhythm of gathering as a community on Sunday mornings. We also are figuring out how to gather after the service for a virtual coffee hour, for virtual lunches and conversation, I am holding virtual office hours, and more to come. This is a time when we realize the healing power of human connection, that we need one another, and that we can figure out creative ways to be present and to support one another.

Our broader community has needs, such as the Larimer County Food Bank (foodbanklarimer.org/news/covid-19/) which has asked for donations and/or volunteers to help during this uncertain time. The Immigrant Freedom Fund continues to bond out people (over forty so far) detained in the GEO Detention Center in Aurora, CO and needs donations to continue its good work (www.immigrantfreedomfund.org). We will keep you posted through our weekly email blasts and announcements during Sunday services for other opportunities to help in whatever ways you can.

One of the songs that will be featured live by the UUkes and our children and youth in a future Sunday service when we are back in our Sanctuary is "Count On Me" by Bruno Mars (www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JNtAtGGNRU). Maybe between now and then we all can learn the song so we can sing along when that day comes, which it will. In the meantime, here's the message I send out to you:

If you ever find yourself stuck in the middle of the sea, I'll sail the world to find you. If you ever find yourself lost in the dark and you can't see, I'll be the light to guide you. Find out what we're made of when we are called to help our friends in need. You can count on me like one two three I'll be there, and I know when I need it I can count on you like four three two you'll be there, 'cause that's what friends are supposed to do, oh yeah.

From Laurel, With Love

New Options for Worship and Gatherings

Over three years ago, Tom Clark and other volunteers developed a plan to enhance the spiritual experience of Sunday services in our sanctuary. Their vision included improving our ability to better hear the words of Laurel and our worship associates, enjoy and be inspired by music, and invite visual opportunities with origins beyond our walls into our gatherings. We have all benefitted by the improved audio system that was introduced in 2017. However, funds were not available to complete the visual enhancements that were planned at that time. One of our congregants has now made it possible to complete the plan with a generous donation!

What has been missing are large TV monitors on each side of the north wall of the sanctuary synchronized with our current sound system and controlled by our computer system. Until now, to share visual content on Sundays or during community meetings, required setting up a portable screen, a projector, computer and operator in the center of the sanctuary. While this has worked, it is cumbersome and intrusive and a bit chaotic. Completing the AV system will allow for greater creativity and opportunity for using our sanctuary and enrich our spiritual experience. Our enhanced AV capabilities opens opportunities to sponsor community activities that can introduce NUUC to the greater community as well. Your NUUC board welcomes your input!

The Word from Communication

We have launched the new Namaqua website namaquauu.org/ People have sent me notes of gratitude, but of course, I didn't do it alone. First, huge thanks go to Rachel Findley for getting us started; truly if it weren't for her expertise, willingness to establish our new framework, and the hours she spent documenting processes and kindly teaching me, we wouldn't have a new site. Gratitude also to our stellar administrative assistant Tiffany Beisner who spent time initially, helping us imagine what was possible. Bob Viscount has been stalwart in his updates and management of our old site while we prepared the one; Steve and Karen Dornseif have been so supportive and helpful in proofreading and providing useful input on creating the new site; and Cat Alexander provided not only encouragement but explanations in a way that my right brain understood, so I could jump those last few hurdles.

As it's taken many of us to create this new site, it will take many of us to keep it going. I'm doing my best to keep it updated now, which seems more important than ever, but I will need help going forward. If you're a WordPress maven, or would like to learn, or have other web-related skills, please let me know. Email me at

Communications@namaquauu.org

Also, to help keep us connected in these distancing times, I have created a YouTube channel, mostly with videos of music from services, but there are some other videos, too. So check it out at www.youtube.com/channel/UCRIF-KOCAxm3wVbTpTAU9HQ I'll be adding more as we go and hope to get some of our virtual services added as well.

If you have photos from Namaqua events that you'd like to submit for posting on Facebook, the website, or to be included in a future video, please send them to me at Photos@namaquauu.org

Thank you,

Karen Brock, Communications Ministry chair

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Team supports the congregation and friends during difficult times. They take care of such needs as arranging for meals and running errands, rides to appointments, help with moving or yard work, sick visits and companion walks for those recovering. They also help celebrate happy accomplishments.

If you, or someone you know, are in need of special support, please contact one of the team members:

Cindy Black: 970.214.8350

Els Deininger: 970.667.5881

Sally Henry: 970.391.1785

Rev Laurel Liefert: 970.685.0427

PastoralCare@NamaquaUU.org

Why I Pledge

By Mim Neal

I like to think of my relationship with the Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation as symbiotic.

I come here most Sundays because I know I will be among people I like and respect and I will hear ideas and music that will enrich me, expanding my understanding of the world and of my soul. This community has deepened my appreciation of others, whatever their sexual orientation, helped me to acknowledge the systemic racism that permeates our history and the present day and, in so many ways, has broken me out of my complacency. It has even enabled me to, in some small way, address the needs of undocumented immigrants locked in a for-profit prison in Aurora, Colorado. [Hooray Immigrant Freedom Fund!]

I am 78 ½, short and fat, mobility impaired, with a broken left wrist. I have been divorced for 44 years. I live alone with my 19 ½ year old cat. It would be so easy for me to withdraw from the larger community (or indeed any community) but Namaqua draws me out, lifts me up and gently encourages me to stay engaged with life.

And when I need help, I get help. [Since I broke my wrist, people have provided rides and food... and there are outstanding cooks among us.]

Occasionally, I have found ways to serve Namaqua – through worship services or sabbatical assistance or an abbreviated stint as secretary [I flunked secretary]. Each of those roles enriched me and helped me stand a little taller and [sometimes] speak a little louder].

All of this is in addition to Rev. Laurel [and Francey] and Nancy Kain, whom I deeply miss, and Shirley Rawson, our UU saint.

So, the better question is why would I not pledge??

I don't think it is possible to get more blessings for the buck.

Creative Corner

Thank you to Cindy Black for sharing her artwork in the Creative Corner during this month. Unfortunately, we were only able to enjoy her work for one Sunday prior to services being halted due to the Coronavirus. We look forward to seeing her artwork displayed once again in the very near future.

At this time, we hope to display the artwork of Carole Barton once the sanctuary is open. Below is a brief biography of Carole, and her artistic influences.

Carole Barton—As a young child, the highlight of returning to school each fall was a new box of Crayola crayons, paper, scissors and glue. She enjoyed endless hours of drawing and experimenting with color. In high school she enjoyed many elective art classes. Her interest in French Impressionists began during these years; their use of color was so unique, loose, and imaginative. Carole taught school and worked for the Thompson School District in Loveland, CO as a counselor at both the elementary and high school levels. After retirement she began taking watercolor classes and her interest in art was rekindled. She has also worked in acrylic and pastel, but she always returns to watercolor because of its magical, fluid, and challenging qualities.

Family Promise (formerly Angel House)

Family Promise, a program of House of Neighborly Service, coordinates night shelter and support for families in our Loveland/Berthoud communities who are temporarily homeless. There are eight churches which provide overnight shelter, and Namaqua UU supports King of Glory Lutheran Church with evening meals for the families.

Due to the current COVID-19 virus status, Family Promise cannot receive new applicants and they are currently at full capacity. Current families will be hosted at hotels/motels until they can safely be transitioned back into the churches.

Although the families will have access to the HNS pantry, additional funding would be greatly appreciated for groceries and extended hotel stays. If you would like to support this effort, please go to the HNS website at: honservice.org.

For more information and/or questions, call Linda Danforth (970) 646-1201 or lindaldanforth@gmail.com. Thank you!

Building Beloved Community

Glenda Bell: Glenda's Bird Bulletin as of Monday 2/24/20....I live on the top floor of a brick apartment house in Fort Collins. In the winter, I feed birds (and squirrels, who climb up the brick with ease) off my south-facing balcony. I have wire cage feeders from Wild Birds so the squirrels only get what is dislodged by my little tweeters. All winter a gang of House Finches, American Goldfinches, Juncos and a few sparrows come at least twice a day. I heard a male House Finch singing on Saturday morning the 22nd. I also noticed that he was aggressively chasing other males. Now, these fellows have been buddies all winter. So, as the light has increased, his hormones have increased. He is now setting up his territory, thus the singing. "Girls, look at me, how handsome I am, and look at my fantastic food supply." Spring has begun.

Pete Buchmeier: My brother, Karl, is the baby of the family (eight years younger than me.) He was always in trouble as a teen but was able to pull things together. He has combined, raised and educated four kids from three families and we all respect him. I stay with him whenever I am in Seattle. He lives on Bainbridge Island due west of downtown Seattle, across Puget Sound. He has cancer of the tonsils and neck but has an excellent prognosis for a full recovery. I'll see him later this summer, when Jen and I get back from visiting Rachel in Jordan.

Barbara Fleming: I mourn the death of a long-time, very dear friend, Lynn Simpson, once a student of mine at Community College of Aurora, dead far too young from a brain tumor. When we met, we knew immediately that we would be friends. Over the last two decades, I have been helping her write a book which, sadly, did not get completed and published before she died on February 12. Such a loss leaves a hole that never gets refilled, but I am warmed by memories of our many conversations and shared pleasures. Kindred spirits stay alive in one's heart.

Kent Robertson: Thank you, NUUC, for your thoughts, meditation and prayers. Ginny turns 80 years April 26. She doesn't have the strength to get out of bed and has to be helped by a nurse. I miss her at the house after eight months of her being at the Rehab and Nursing Center. I received Zytiga pills for my prostate cancer and have begun taking four tablets a day, followed by Prednisone. I will meet with the oncologist's staff in April. Early in March, we enjoyed a drive to Estes Park together—a great day.

Memories of Nancy Kain:

She was always there first. Whenever I found something I wanted to support, it turned out that Nancy Kain was a part of it, perhaps even a leader—Peace in the Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. events, Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Welcoming Congregation, acknowledging racism . . . Always passionate but never sentimental, Nancy brought great intelligence and compassion to whatever she supported. And she was great to work with and to be with. An honor and pleasure to know. *Mim Neal*

Nancy was remarkably energetic, creative and engaged. Whatever she undertook she invested in with her whole being. She was also cheerful, hopeful and generous with her time and energy. She left large footprints to fill. *Barbara Fleming*

Nancy was 100% in whatever she did. She was an amazing, dedicated worker. When she was President of the Board of NUUC, she asked all board members to copy the entire board on every NUUC related email. I commented that that would create about 5 times the number of emails, was unnecessary, and required too much time reading emails that might be short replies to another board member's email. She explained that it was like we were having a conversation and everyone was in the conversation 24/7. I replied that I already had a 24/7 job and I was not about to have a second one. Everything Nancy did was a 24/7 job. *Dick Barton*

The times I spent chatting, laughing, and yes, crying with Nancy while sharing coffee or tea, are treasures more precious than gold. I will miss her dearly. *Vicki Clark*

Before 2015, I admired Nancy from afar, a bit in awe of her reputation for dedication, courage and forthrightness. In October/November 2015, I had the privilege of working intensely with Nancy in the preparation of our buildings for our first service. We spent many hours a day together, coordinating our efforts to prepare the buildings for our use. I noticed early on that I was coming in earlier every morning, trying to get a bit ahead of her before she appeared with a new To Do list. She was amazing in staying up on so many parts of the First Home Project. I was pleased to learn that she was witty, silly when called for, well-informed on a variety of subjects, and generous in praise and encouragement. It was a wonderful experience and one that still inspires me to commit and do my best. I miss her very much. *Karen Dornseif*

Board of Trustees Highlights

The Board continues their discussion of this year's deep chair common read: *The Growing Church: Keys to Congregational Vitality*, Thom Belote, editor. This month's discussion focused on the chapter entitled, Innovation.

Facilities Update

- The fire / intrusion protection system is up and functioning and the fire department has a code that they can use to get in to the building.
- A walk-through is planned to see if system will do what it is supposed to do. (See the article in this month's Crossings for more information.)
- Pews are now mobile. Folks who use the sanctuary are reminded that the wheels need be raised when the pew is back in place. Pete Buchmeier will make a reminder checklist for sanctuary users.

Financial Update

- Year to date we are \$16 in the red due to a couple of one time expenses:
 - We paid a total of \$4,976 for the updated security system and mobile pews
- The second installment of \$3,750 from Wake Now Our Vision has been put in the Building Fund to use later as part of our mortgage payment.

COVID-19

(a note: With the rapid expansion of COVID-19, we look

back on these Board highlights in particular and note just how quickly our questions needed answering and plans operationalized.)

Board members took on the following tasks:

1. Doug: check with UUA and see what is going on nationally.
2. Jessie: checking with her firm to see if we can piggy back on GoToMeeting
3. Jim: check with Foothills on how they live-stream
4. Karen Brock (LDC): will record March 22 sermon to post on website

Jim added that

- The pews, doorknobs need to be wiped down after every use
- Having some Purell available would be good

Sally Henry (CoSM) recommended forming a task force to come up with a plan on what emergency measures we might need to take, e.g., at what point do we cancel services.

Next Board meeting scheduled for April 14, at 6:30 pm in Parker Hall – but may take place virtually

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Williamson, Board of Trustees Secretary

Board meetings are held at 6:00 pm the second Tuesday of the month at 745 E. 5th Street in Parker Hall. All are welcome to observe.

NUUC Board of Trustees:

Doug Stewart, President (Board term expires June 30, 2020)
 Jim Danforth, Vice President (Board term expires 2020)
 Dick Barton, Treasurer (Board term expires 2022)
 Rebecca Williamson, Secretary (Board term expires 2021)
 Pete Buchmeier, Trustee (term expires 2022)
 Brenda Christiansen, Trustee (term expires 2020)
 Jessie Allen-Young, Trustee (term expires 2021)
 Rev. Laurel Liefert, ex-officio

To comment to the Board, email Board@NamaquaUU.org
 To reach the President, email President@NamaquaUU.org

NUUC Elected Leaders

Committee on Shared Ministries (CoSM)

Sara Suriani (term expires 2022)
 Brian Jarvis (term expires 2021)
 Paul McCarter (term expires 2022)
 Sally Henry (term expires 2020)
 Elaine Axon (term expires 2020)

Leadership Development Committee (LDC)

Karen Brock (term expires 2020)
 Cindy Black (term expires 2020)
 Sarah Wilhelm (term expires 2021)
 Kathy Hartman (term expires 2022)

We are on the web!
www.NamaquaUU.org

Our Mission

Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation fosters a beloved community that celebrates diversity, strives for peace and justice, acts mindfully for the good of the planet, and inspires spiritual growth through a free and loving search for truth and meaning.

Namaqua Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a liberal congregation in the Loveland-Berthoud area with about **200 members and friends** from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds .

We affirm the worth of every human being and welcome to our congregation all persons without regard to age, gender, race, sexual orientation, disability, or other class of exclusion.

Our faith tradition calls us to actively engage in justice-making by advocating on behalf of oppressed peoples, working toward a healthier, more sustainable world, and witnessing for a more just and tolerant society.

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Due dates for the next two issues:

For the May Newsletter: April 19

For the June Newsletter: May 24

NUUC E-mail Addresses

AdultEnrichment@NamaquaUU.org
 Board@NamaquaUU.org
 BuildingBelovedCommunity@NamaquaUU.org
 Buildings@NamaquaUU.org
 Calendar@NamaquaUU.org
 CoSM@NamaquaUU.org
 DenominationalAffairs@NamaquaUU.org
 Directory@NamaquaUU.org
 DRE@NamaquaUU.org
 Facebook@NamaquaUU.org
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 OoS@NamaquaUU.org
 PastoralCare@NamaquaUU.org
 Photos@NamaquaUU.org
 President@NamaquaUU.org
 Publicity@NamaquaUU.org
 SocialJustice@NamaquaUU.org
 Visitor@NamaquaUU.org
 nuuc@NamaquaUU.org (to send an e-mail message to the congregation)



Mailing address:

NUUC

745 E. 5th Street

Loveland CO 80537