

## WHEN WE MEET AGAIN Congregational responses

May 19, 2021

### GROUP 1 – Annie Vail

#### 1. What core values and guiding principles seem most important to you as we move to re-opening? Are there others you'd add to this list?

- *Moving forward we need to tap into courage, reverence, and compassion AND also **Patience!!!** We need to be patient with people who are making the decisions or making reopening happen and those of us who might stumble through honoring every individual's physical boundaries.*
- ***Community** - in person is important. Our family found it difficult to find community via Zoom so we are really looking forward to being in community in person. However, community means we take care of each other. We need to be cognizant of other people's boundaries. Rules need to be set to keep people safe and our community needs to follow them. Mask wearing needs to be mandatory for the immediate future.*
- ***Open mindedness**- This is a good time to let go of some things that may not have served us well in the past. It is hard for some people to go into the social hall after church. It doesn't feel open and welcoming unless you know a group of people. It's been mentioned this year. What do we do to make more people feel welcome. One suggestion is that everyone receives a number when they leave the sanctuary and are then assigned to numbered tables for conversation groups. It was mentioned this might work for extraverts but not for the introverts. The welcome committee currently welcomes people at the door when they arrive, but perhaps the welcome committee could do more to welcome newcomers during coffee hour.*

#### 2. As you look at our evolving list of questions, what responses would you offer to the ones that interest you most?

- *Questions around safety. We need to be cognizant of safety **and** privacy. We don't want to ask people their vaccination status or whether they have immune deficiency concerns. It will be best to continue wearing masks for the immediate future.*
- *The choir is an important part of our church community. Choir members miss singing together. And the congregation will miss listening to the choir "live" when we return to the sanctuary. We're anxious for communal singing to come back as soon as it is safe.*
- *How do we get people back that fell out of our community the last 1.5 years? For many people Zoom wasn't their thing. As soon as WBUUC is back in person, many people will be ready to return. For now, they're all Zoomed out.*
- *The Tech Team helped senior citizens get on Zoom. That was a barrier for those not technology minded. Many seniors reported they did not read the newsletter online. When we do return to in person, how do we make sure those who do not read the e-newsletter know that we're returning to in person? Are paper newsletters mailed if requested?*
- *It would be helpful to send hand written postcards to those people who haven't been attending. We have missed you! This would be a good project for the Welcome Committee.*
- *Is one way of doing church more real or valid than the other?*
  - *Part of our community appreciates the new accessibility. Many teachers feel face to face education is more valuable than remote learning, but several students had to be*

*home this school year for reasons other than COVID, so that option was better. Moving forward, having options will be helpful.*

- *Some meetings don't need to be in person. Many of us will love not having to drive to attend a meeting at church midweek, if that's an option.*
- *For virtual church to be just as worthy as in person church, it will cost money. In order for simulcast to be most effective and the online experience equally valuable we need to invest in upgraded technology. Let's invest money in ways that will make simulcasts easier for service participants to manage than current practices.*
- *What's happening in other churches? Lots of churches just opened. They haven't done it as mindfully, but perhaps they can provide insight into how to transition back safely.*
- *Some of the bigger area churches have been simulcasting since before the pandemic. Tech research could include talking to those people operating simulcast systems at some of these area churches.*
- *Does the CDC offer guidance specifically for church reopenings?*

## **GROUP 2- Lisa Borg**

- Highly value the zooms— have been able to visit many UU churches
- Hope that tech stays with all things
- Hope that soul work will continue
- When we go back to social hour— hope that it doesn't go back to the way it was, and that there can be a system for the logistics— especially for the welcoming of new and/or unconnected members
- Desperately miss being there in person and long for that connection
- We have to look out for the vulnerable people.
- Could there be one service for vaccinated people?
- Very grateful for remote access, especially when travelling
- Food has been so important— could there be some cookouts with staggered seating times?
- How will we get Wednesday suppers up and going again?
- Wearing masks when kids are around is a must.
- Wondering also about the lunch program and the kitchen.
- It should be made clear that anyone who is not vaccinated needs to wear a mask--on second thought, they should be mandatory for everyone.

## **GROUP 3 – Jillian Lampert**

– sing with all

- multigenerational; wouldn't be offended if she couldn't go if children couldn't go because they are too young for vaccination; wouldn't feel left out. Would be happy people can go back. Looking forward to conversation with people.

- would it be a hard line not to bring family back until vaccinated? XX said no, she'd hope her kids could just come to church even if they couldn't go to RE

- former health dept employee and is cautious. Will be wearing a mask for a while. I worry about the people who don't get vaccinated and about the children who will be exposed. Moving forward cautiously and safely. Everyone wants to be together – “I miss being together so much”. “I'm cautious”. “ I want to move ahead smartly”.

- we have a grandchild starting kindergarten in the fall – that’s on our minds, too. One of the things that we’re talking about is that the return is going to be something other than “normalcy” – it’ll be the new normal, particularly in this time of staff transition
- likes the trial of coming in together in new ways safely
- I don’t have kids or grandkids – can see why that’s concerning – how do they social distance – what about kids that won’t be able to distance?
- how do you feel about singing in person in a group?
- I want to but I’m worried – I want to do it but I don’t know when it’s going to be safe

*What to keep from this year going forward?*

- committees tend to be part of Sunday morning experience – liking the experience of not having to have that part of Sunday. Loves mixing aspect of cyber social hour – somehow keep that.
- – really enjoyed cyber social hour connections – looking forward to seeing them in person
- I also have loved cyber social hour – the first group included a cousin I didn’t know well! A hybrid in person and online would be good
- what will “both” in person and online look like?
- monthly committee meetings – I’ve not minded those on Zoom, but for some people, those have been their 37<sup>th</sup> hour of Zoom meeting a week so that’s been harder for some people. A hybrid of both.
- : I agree with committee meetings on zoom – those have been great to not have to leave home. I’m not sure if we could do a Sunday hybrid social hour – how could we do that? Encourage people to go to a facilitated table conversation? Could that work? There’s just not enough person power to do both. The meetings on zoom are really great, though.
- : no commute time is so great – and meetings start and end on time! 😊

*Other concerns*

- : many other churches are open – will we lose them to other churches? “why the heck are the Lutherans meeting and singing and we can’t?” Do we need to speed things along?
- : does everyone have internet? That’s a concern. There are always a number of invitations that go out by mail not email – what about them? Are we reaching everyone via electronics? Who are we missing?
- : one of the things that concerns us is that online doesn’t permit separating of young children from the service. Our granddaughter is about to be 4 and not everything that is spoken in the adult service is appropriate for 3 year old ears. No way to separate that out when trying to “do church” together.

**Group 4 - Laurie Wenker**

*Overall consensus was to KEEP Cyber Social Hour. Pretty much everyone said this!*

*For those in the Social Hall, could we have a more formalized way to structure conversations? Could we put suggestions in a jar and have people take one to help structure conversations with others? This could help spread some of the practices of the church.*

*Digital option for church is good for those who have a hard time getting to church*

**NOTES FROM FULL GROUP:**

- : how can we hang on to the treasure that is cyber social hour? How do we curate that?
  - : the new normal is different than the old normal and how do we get used to that?
- Some churches have gone back to old normal – do we risk losing people because we’re moving too slow?

-: openmindedness about what we don't want to go back to – what do we want to leave behind  
-: what about the concept of not wanting to go back to normal – how do we talk about what we want to hang on to and keep the lessons? What did we get from this and how do we preserve the preciousness of what we needed to change? How do we remember?

So many changes:

Return to in person experience

Ministry transition

Thaxter leaving

So many conversations to come about who are we and who are we called to be

-: what about food, dinners, etc. how do we reopen the kitchen?

-: Bookstall – and all the discreet areas that we have – how can that open up to serve us? Can the book cart be brought outside?

-: How will we decide where to put our attention and in what order?

-: dilemma about vaccinated or not – mask wearing we'd have to be so cautious

-: privacy – how do we respect people's privacy and keeping all of us safe at the same time? It could make sense for all of us to wear masks.

-; patience and grace will be so important - we need to be patient

-: trust will be so important

Laurie: thinking as able bodied people how important this has been to others that are not able bodied or can't get to church

-: second that Laurie – amazing to participate this way. Can we assume people will be on board with masks? Are we going to be accountable for asking others to wear masks?

-: will people at church be more inclined to be masked because we're part of a community?

*Other questions/ideas/comments:*

How do we support young families?

Maybe Wed eve break into rooms in person in small groups

LOVE social hour

Zoom events sponsored by congregational members like at the auction – liked that and helped meet new people – both one off opportunities and also sharing circles that are more together over time

Have outdoor services please

Small group formed over activity – outdoors particularly, like with others slow walking, etc. Like interest groups, companionship, inclusive, different ways still structure giving space and time -

Put Medical group upfront and talking about what's going on and Kate Edwards talking about HVAC

-

*IDEAS in large group:*

Break us into small groups at random after eating Wed night and give us questions

Orders of service color coded and put people together after service by color – coffee stations color coded – could be RE project

Speed dating during social cyber hour replicated in person – 5 mins with a small group; whistle blows, switch groups; really enjoyed getting to know better so many people in cyber social hour

UU Geek Squad

UU Nanny Squad

Events that are random done by themes that are zoom based; one off events to meet each other; connect our church in lots of little circles

Concern: find a way to share cares and concerns as a community and retain privacy at the same time, so we can show compassion to others. This is being missed.

Entering/reentering space will be joyful and very important to stop and have a moment of remembrance in our community and the world since we've all been in the space – we haven't been

able to grieve and mourn as a community in the space together re-opening. Crossing a tender threshold.

Shout out to the card writers – Annie’s story about her mother in law getting cards 😊

<b>May 12, 2021</b>
---------------------

## **Group 1 – Lisa Borg**

### **Conversation:**

- Looking for update of timeline
- Women’s book club would like to meet outside, meeting at church would be preferable
- Parents of young children would welcome a way to worship and be meditative without the distraction of kids
- Miss the Sunday morning hugs--even the church seems lonely
- Multi platform -- everyone was agreed that virtual worship should continue
- Since there may be fewer people in the physical space on Sundays, does that open up the possibility of only one service--many prefer the 10:00 time
- Cyber social hour--will miss it has been so interesting and had habit of only visiting with friends; wish we could have both cyber and in person-- they both serve different conversational needs; maybe a Wednesday discussion group on Zoom or a new member cyber social hour where more established members can sign up to be included in break out rooms with newer members;
- CSHour is going to enable us to be more social with various other people when we go back to in person
- We have always been food centered--soup and bread after service--Wednesday evening dinners are missed--camaraderie in the kitchen--ritual that binds people together; what will we do around food as we come back into the space?
- New members feel more welcomed as a result of CSHour
- Having been vaccinated it’s easy to feel too confident about what we choose to do or not do, but we may not be making the wisest decisions
- Social pressure expectation should be that people be vaccinated--statement of support of vaccinations

## **Group 2 – Nancy Ver Steegh**

### **Summary of discussion**

All agreed that the church won’t return to the way it was – we’ll have a new model of being together. We will preserve “the best of what was, and the best of what is now.”

People liked some things about COVID programing such as:

Cyber social hour – people have real conversations (although on person thought the conversations were too formal and prescribed)

People who live away can participate in the life of the online church

Like the way Victoria and the staff reimagined the church service rather than trying to live stream an in-person format

Convenience of not having to drive to church, especially in bad weather

People want to retain:

Our purpose – the profound reasons we gather in the first place  
Human connection – “being with my people, even if I don’t know them personally”  
People want to accommodate members with a wide variety of needs, expectations, and fears – they want everyone to stay connected and leave no one behind.

### **Group 3 – Laurie Wenker**

As we image re-gathering what do you imagine could be different is a good way? Plus general comments:

Having the sermon recorded is great for then you miss it or want to rewatch it

Zoom helps those who are not fully able-bodied, away from home, or just not able to get there due to weather, etc.

Wellspring Zoom meetings have been effective and a great way to grow relationships with others

Committee work with Zoom has been very enjoyable and earth friendly

People are all different. How can we do both digital and face to face worship, meetings?

Zoom has worked well for the Land Stewardship meetings

Will we do both Zoom and in person?

Comment about being present for a meeting elsewhere where the people on Zoom were on a big screen with their pictures, and there was a camera facing the people in person. Both groups could see each other. It worked really well, but certainly with take technology expertise and money.

The meeting went really well. I was so surprised how many on my group were impressed with Zoom and hope that committees can be done by Zoom or at least alternate with face to face.

<b>APRIL 21, 2021</b>
-----------------------

### **Group 1- Lisa Borg**

#### **What we miss:**

Choir

Live music

Spirit prairie--wondering how it looks

View out the window--change of seasons-- and the congregation

Sense of community

Being in the sanctuary

Singing with the congregation

Miss getting up, dressed, get in the car and going to church on Sunday/riding bike to church

Project of solar panels did not get off the ground

#### **Conversation:**

--there will be people without vaccines and vulnerable people who will be present if we are in person--how do we open safely--would 80% of people vaccinated constitute herd immunity? How do we respect people who are vaccine hesitant?

--vaccinated people can come back and others not [we discussed privacy issues here]

--the Zooms have been great--let's spend the money to get really great tech so that people don't feel left out--who's in and who's out will be less of an issue

--We will be in a hybrid situation indefinitely and that is a really great option; let it be the honor system for who comes in person; mask issue--not sure, but willing to go with science; would like to see us get back in as soon as possible

--would love to get back into the church, despite loving the broadcast version; how do we respect people's privacy about vaccinations; people will probably do the right thing; will go with the science

--more and more people are vaccinated, but will defer to our protocol committee; but what if the kids are not vaccinated

I--there are a lot of younger people who have COVID right now--there is so much more that needs to be known; latest studies show that vaccinated people are probably not carriers, so that is good

--how do we get the kids back--they may be the source of Corona

--for people who are suffering from isolation, I wonder if there are creative ways to gather outdoors but in person for people who really need it

--in the 50s there were polio, smallpox vaccines, and there was not secrecy about who had the vaccine and who did not; MPR story about 60 ppl who were vaccinated got COVID and 6 of them died; we need to be open and honest about whether or not we have been vaccinated

--can we meet outside?

--we could find funds from donors for outdoor seating;

--because I'm vaccinated, my friends have been getting together; maybe there is a way to help people find each other through the church but for small gatherings

## **GROUP 2 - Kathy Sedro**

- As we imagine re-gathering, what do you imagine could be different now from before, in a good way?
  - I have gotten to know a lot more people in the random social hour so I would like that to continue somehow but perhaps with more involvement. Also the same with Wednesday activities. I am worried because we need young people and I don't know whether we'll get them. We'll have to offer them something that they're interested in? I don't think we should gather until we all can. The children aren't vaccinated yet.
  - Virtual meetings will be more convenient when people are ill or out of town so people can have more continuity. This will help people who spend the winter elsewhere, are busy, don't have cars, etc.

- Volunteering – There will be fewer people sustaining Habitat for Humanity. I don't know what church policy will be around volunteering. My wife's church has gotten together at 1/3 capacity. They do spacing and have a lot of air volume. I've appreciated the zoom services a lot.
- Social Hour – I think it will be more comfortable because we've been exposed to more people on zoom. How can we make it more interactive in person? On zoom we have facilitators who roam from group to group. We could do that in person.
  - It could be mandatory mixing but I'd rather that not be every week.
  - I'm in a women's group that has 100 members. They keep telling us to mix it up but we don't. So it's good to make people mix but don't make them mix every time.
  - The facilitators could help the new people to be in an existing group.
  - : It could be part of the church service once per month to have people talk with people who they did not arrive with.
  - Suggest that people sit in different spots for the church service occasionally.
- How comfortable are people feeling with meeting? I have had two shots and recently hugged my daughter for the first time in a year.
  - I am now fully vaccinated and feel comfortable but am not saying anyone else should be.
  - I feel comfortable following CDC guidelines. I feel comfortable with the gatherings they've sanctioned but they have not sanctioned church gatherings yet. I'm not comfortable meeting inside church yet.
  - Nor am I.
- Committee meetings: I would encourage more committee meetings to meet on zoom and not be compelled to go to church. I have a long drive. The drive takes its toll. It limits me to one per week. Also it's better for the planet.
  - I'm right with you on that. I can attend more things if I can attend meetings from home.
  - It also opens up our ability to partner with other churches, communities or social justice groups.
- Re-opening occurring in phases – Signing up online automatically leaves out those who don't have online access. They are mostly older people. What other thoughts do people have?
  - We could have signup online and by phone.
  - Will it be like getting vaccinated? Initially, everyone will want to sign up. Some people will get signed up often and others may keep missing out? How would we manage that?
    - We could tell people how many Sunday services they can sign up for in a given time period.
    - : If the sanctuary can't be filled due to social distancing, maybe we assign Sundays by the what letter your name starts with.
    - : I hope we don't do that.
    - I'd prefer that too.
- Do we know whether there will be two services in the fall?
  - I think we'd need it because of social distancing.
  - : I'm concerned about staff having to maintain 2 or 3 different systems (in-person + zoom + managing signups). Will our staff be over burdened?
- : Being new, it is nice having opportunities to mingle. Zoom makes it easy.
- : If they can't sign up online, then they probably can't zoom either.

## Group 1 -GENA Borgmeier

- The guiding principle of centering the most vulnerable is really appreciated.
- Gathering together again will be a joyful time, but also a time of grief for many as we learn all that we have lost this past year, not just in our community but globally. It would be important to pause to recognize that which we are grateful for and also all that we mourn.
- Would love to be greeted by Dick Ottman with a big air hug in one of his best sweaters.
- Meeting in person with the choir and the sacredness of that in person singing together is really missed. Understand that it may be one of the last to meet due to the risk involved in singing, but still...folks are really missing it.
- All the social aspects of church are deeply missed, in particular the dinners, coffee hour, groups, classes, in person service auction. We have learned so much this past year about new infection control techniques that it's possible our dinners in particular will be safer than before once we do gather together again.
- Some really have appreciated the conveniences and benefits of zoom gatherings/services and look forward to incorporating some habits that we developed using that platform into our in person gatherings, as well as perhaps continuing to use technology in a hybrid fashion when church reopens. Some of the benefits of zoom include the convenience of it for folks that live farther away from church, have tight schedules in the evenings that don't lend to driving to and from church, and for those that can't or don't want to drive in winter or in dark.
- One aspect that was appreciated about cyber social hour specifically was the call to step out of one's comfort zone and broaden horizons beyond current friends. From there came the idea of church speed dating, or other ways to continue encouraging us to "co-mingle" and build a more inclusive community.
- In terms of prioritizing the reopening of our space, is there a way we can ask folks to self-identify their prioritization for meeting in person as we anticipate group size will be limited for awhile at first? For example, keeping in mind our value of compassion, can we somehow ask members to give a loose ranking that ranges from a high need to come back in person soon (those experiencing great loneliness/isolation or have a need for companionship/comfort, for example) compared to those for whom attending services has been relatively fine and they don't mind waiting, or who would actually feel more comfortable in waiting (those who live farther, those who have grown to appreciate the convenience of "zooming in" or who feel unsafe right now but who would give their "blessing" for the church to reopen for others)?
- It was suggested that the church board begin meeting in person first. Sort of as a way of "generals charging into battle" or doing a trial run to map it out and then set an example for how other groups could gather safely.
- It was also felt that some prioritization for meetings should go to our kids/teens in our religious ed program as they are a foundational part of our community and we want them fully integrated and face to face as soon as possible. If there are spacing restrictions, perhaps we make one night a week RE night where the kids (who have registered in advance) can be

dropped off and split up into age appropriate groupings and are able to make use of the whole church to maintain distances, etc.

- Will there be a vaccination requirement?

## Group 2- ANNIE VAIL

### 1. What core values.....

- I'm not feeling courageous at this time. I'm leaning more toward compassion and reverence so I don't want to rush the reopening.
- Follow the Science and that will lead to respect of staff and all ages of participants.
- As a mom, the safety of my child, who won't be able to get the vaccine for quite a while, is my primary concern.
- We might never open if we're waiting for everyone to be safe. We are trying to be compassionate and respectful of all, but want to be sure we can meet even though there will be members of our community who may choose not to get vaccinated.
- Perhaps people who are vaccinated could volunteer to run things in the place of unvaccinated staff. We could develop team systems of those who are vaccinated and those not vaccinated to support one another in various ways. There could be a team on site that could help implement Zoom connections with those not on site.
- Use the schools in person and distance learning models to continue providing Zoom Church.

### 2. As you look at our list of questions...

- Questions about privacy - Sharing of concerns is important- It was lost and now it's part of sharing during social hour. If we do hybrid online and in person services will we lose that part from our services again?
- Establish what our capacity is in the sanctuary and in the church. Perhaps there could be some kind of lottery or we could bid for the Sundays that work with our schedules. We have to recognize that we will still have access to Zoom services those Sundays we can't be in the building.
- The possibility of meeting outside is very exciting. Flower communion sounds lovely!
- What expectations can we establish around masks, vaccines, etc.? If someone is not going to wear a mask then they must be asked to leave. All must wear masks whether they've been vaccinated or not. Continue following mask wearing guidance from the CDC. As long as we have clear signage at the entrances it will be like entering any other place of business. We may need volunteers to enforce mask wearing.
- We love it, but we can forego coffee, tea and cookies for now.
- There was a question about this question - How do we hold the reality that roles have shifted and that formerly active leaders have stopped participating? What does that mean? What's the data? ABV shared that she does not have that data. There was further discussion that this has been a hard year for parents. They are exhausted by Zoom so it may be that their participation has dropped off. Also, perhaps the scope of committees has been diminished so that active leaders seem to be less active. Those formerly in leadership roles may have taken this opportunity to take a step back and catch their breath.

### 3. As we imagine re-gathering...

- I have loved that Zoom rooms have caused me to talk to more new people. Proscribed conversations that happen during in person services when we break into small groups, don't work as well.

- Many Sundays I was happy that I did not have to shower, get dressed, and drive to church. The convenience of still having that option would be great.
- Zoom services have attracted new members/viewers. We want to be sure we keep serving those from far away that have connected with our Church these last 12 months..
- Zoom services have been great for former members who have moved away to reconnect with the church.
- Zoom committee meetings have been really good. Moving forward, committees might decide to check in with each other to see what works best for that particular committee.

### GROUP 3 – Lisa Borg

- Miss the children/teaching OWL/intergenerational aspect of church
- Wondering how many people want to be vaccinated and have not' able to do that--Karlyn would be willing to help people out in that category
- --remote and wondering about continuation of online presence--have interacted with people that she never knew before--wonderful to be able to join
- --gotta have coffee; food truck coffee and cookies? Such society to be gained from coffee; guilt and anxiety felt by children who may have unknowingly exposed elders to covid; hope that the tech team is working hard on improving tech in online; music is sometimes difficult to hear or distorted; lighting and cameras budget items; is Zoom the best format? There are alternatives to evaluate; hope that the new tech will somehow facilitate face to face or person to person connections, but not sure how that would work.
- --online program hopefully makes opening an easier decision; how do you meet everyone's needs? Since we are making a commitment to staying on line, it should be OK to open up for a few Sundays before the end of the season.
- Children have not been vaccinated, so maybe being in person is more hazardous than one imagines--we need to protect our vulnerable people
- Pfizer may be offered to 12-15 year olds soon
- Masks will be worn regardless of vaccination status
- Students are back in school, so...
- HVAC--could we have more info come out about the details of covid inspired improvements?
- Outdoor seating investment? People bring their own chairs?
- Women's book group--might want to meet in person
- Random social hour--deep connections are made; new people in church are intimidated by in person social hour
- People with small children will need to be out on the playground--People might need reassurance that playground equipment is safe
- The more we can do outside, the better
- Can RE be outside? Again, outdoor seating
- Color code coffee carafes to go with the OOS color codes
- Zoom requires you to be *present* (this is a positive aspect of Zoom); people have been included because of Zoom; committees and special programming can be more accessible to people from afar.
- Maybe we can get ideas from teachers about how to do hybrid work
- Work / life balance--we appreciate the hard work of our staff. How can we be careful about not imposing 24/7 work on our staff?

- Can we find a way to mix people with color coded OOS

#### Group 4 - Jillian Lampert

-: senior building, all shots, cloistered, but now can see other people who are vaccinated. CAN WE HUG EACH OTHER? How will we manage recommending vaccination? Everyone on staff gets vaccinated; board gets vaccinated – both as safety and leading. Recommends 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in September start inside if everyone in community is vaccinated by then. Loves theme circles and men's groups and social hour to talk with Unitarians – I have to talk with Unitarians! 😊 I think we ought to continue a lot of things we are doing. Set up something that divides up people at random with social hour to help with connections. Let's not throw the whole zoom away. People without technology – can church budget include that? Is age a barrier who are too old to feel comfortable with zoom. Minister's discretionary fund for electronics – that fund never goes dry – we can ask for more.

-: not sure we can set A date like Dick thinks. Feels worried; case counts going up. She feels safe with others wearing masks but worried about large groups. Vaccine questions about different vaccines – J&J vs. Pfizer, etc. Can people get together in a small group vs. large group – don't trust vaccines enough yet to have everyone together. Feel isolation and empathy for others. Focused on small groups feeling safer. Doesn't feel like she has enough info on the vaccines – hesitant about vaccine news. Maybe she'll be on zoom a little longer than others. Some individuals are just not comfortable with computers – maybe we can solve that? Wednesday night structured? Is that like social hour? Could we keep that aspect? Have concerns about young families – where is there support? Inclusion of that population – how can we help support young, overwhelmed families?

-: yes, follow science, but we don't know a lot – can the disease still be spread, especially by kids among kids and adults. Expand inclusiveness – very important – can we be more deaf friendly and have better captioning? What about those without computer capacity? Can we create a computer fund to facilitate that? Inclusion, Inclusion and Inclusion. Keep cyber social hour and zoom and/or youtube/facebook. Concerns that we don't know about booster shots yet. Need to be respectful of everyone's needs. Virtual option for committee meetings and small groups – reduce carbon footprint. Could we create a UU Nanny Squad to support young families – take the kids for an afternoon, etc.? Tech question: what is the carbon footprint of the internet/zoom use? Is that more or less than in person? Can we weigh it with commuting? Do we understand what the electronic impact is? Dick says he thinks carbon free electricity is coming very soon – the transportation is the biggest offender. Sunday school for kids so parents can have time for their own needs?

-: when would you feel safe coming back, Diana? Gone to church more in the last year than I have in the last 5 years. It's there and I'm comfortable doing zoom church. When I finally went to cyber social hour I was surprised how much I liked it! Cyber social hour is terrific for meeting other people and I can take part more comfortably than I can in the social hour. Have been seeing people outside walking with a few friends daily walking. Not unhappy but I miss singing with people – the thing I miss the most. I've been singing along with things I don't even know just to sing and feel my body vibrate. Summer outdoor singing? Could sing with masks on. Wild idea: people who don't feel comfortable with technology – what if there were people in the congregation with a laptop that could go around to people and help? like a Unitarian Geek Squad. 😊

- real tired of zoom, gets out with a small group a little bit; not much socialization in the building. Church has been getting too big for her over the last few years; doesn't miss social hall where she can't hear anything with the din and the crowding. Curious what might develop with small group in person meetings.

**Other questions/ideas/comments:**

How do we support young families?

Maybe Wed eve break into rooms in person in small groups

LOVE social hour

Zoom events sponsored by congregational members like at the auction – liked that and helped meet new people – both one off opportunities and also sharing circles that are more together over time

Have outdoor services please

Small group formed over activity – outdoors particularly, like with others slow walking, etc. Like interest groups, companionship, inclusive, different ways still structure giving space and time (Diana)

Put Medical group upfront and talking about what's going on and Kate Edwards talking about HVAC

-