

(RPR)

*Framing needed in our congregations that COVID 19 calls us into a time of **virtual spiritual leadership**.*

“Spiritual Leadership is not a role. Rather, its leadership stance is an orientation and a practice. Its key skill is the ability to navigate between the power within us — that is, our gifts, wisdom, spirit — and our powerlessness — that is, all those things that are outside our control. Its orientation is a vision such as Beloved Community and/or collective liberation. It has no mark of completion.

We are called into our Spiritual Leadership as long as we are alive.”

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/practices_of_spiritual_leadership_-_uua_new_england_region.pdf

(RPR)

A Complete Guide: Youth Ministry Advising, Second Edition. LFE;UUA 2019

Jennica Davis-Hockett, Editor.

<https://www.uuabookstore.org/Youth-Ministry-Advising-Second-Edition-P18552.aspx>

Youth Ministry Advising offers a full complement of tools and strategies for youth advisors and religious educators, ministers, and other adults who are committed to a dynamic vision of youth ministry. Suggested LREDA cluster conversations of ways to virtually adapt core elements.

(RPR)

When You Can't Do OWL... Do This! Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Our Whole Lives staff of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ empathize with those of you whose OWL programs were interrupted by COVID-related shutdowns and those whose new programs are on hold. In response to these challenges, we are developing solutions that are safe, accessible, creative, and values-based, such as: Curated resources to help you support program participants' self-guided learning as well as the parents and guardians who are their children's primary

https://www.uua.org/sites/live-new.uua.org/files/when_you_cant_do_owl.pdf

(RPR)

LREDA Shared Google Resources

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jGS1bZfZWXSIShqfcYpKXPX4Y88IFcU9?fbclid=IwAR1YjTexB5Aet9mA9mGeC9chUFIhdXRvhBsnoiKN-smmTNH6fkIq5QwwOVQ>

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/young-people-cope-pandemic>

(RPR)

Youth Ministry Playhouse (in the age of social distancing) FB Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/257230081966267/>

(RPR)

Together Apart Podcast with Pryia Parker:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/together-apart/id1506057555>

What a hybrid church might look like:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uAKQXagwms>

(YPP)

What to do with leftover CSA greens:

<https://food52.com/recipes/37163-fried-greens-meatlessballs>

Use open space to bring items from community gardens/family gardens/church vegetable gardens – find parking lot in undersourced food desert in local community. Drop off veggies for distribution – collaborate with local farmer's markets/community centers.

Church of the Larger Fellowship

<https://mailchi.mp/dacb00e505d6/communitynowuu>

CommunityNOWUU: fostering real connections in a virtual world. Crowdsourced links for experiences open to all == not bound by geography.

(YPP)

Recruit teams of youth/adults who have the goal to “visit” other UU churches, virtually. Taking part in a wide array of online worship and then offering feedback to their group on what resonated and what did not.

Then recruit that visiting worship team to engage the larger group and utilize Churchcraft:

<http://www.imagine-re.com/chuurchcraft.html>

(YPP)

Virtual improv – watch the video on one word story narrative activity.

<https://www.sbimprov.com/blog/2015/01/29/game-one-word-story>

(YPP)

UU Talks (Ted Talk model)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd8Uxfh0CX63udofBF0M35A>

Create, with youth leaders, a Ted Talk type virtual series. Then engage the group to make their own UU Talk video.

Storytelling Congregational COVID19 Narrative – invite youth to make short videos of the beginning narrative of how your community responded to COVID19.

(YPP)

For fun and fellowship:

The Traveling Church Mascot (as chosen by youth) – example UU Church of Lexington, KY has a traveling congregational gnome. The youth promote the traveling gnome, which magically shows up in congregants front yards to bring birthday/graduation/milestone greetings and love from the congregation. A photo is taken upon delivery, then posted on the congregational FB page. For more information: Stacy Stone, DRE, uucldre@uucl.org.

If not a gnome, then how about an otter? Co-lead with a group of youth/adults a lively conversation on what a mascot for the youth group/church could be in this time of COVID19. Consensus does NOT need to be reached. Begin with some suggestions...otters hold hands while they sleep, etc...

UU Theology/Values/Spiritual Deepening:

Group Spiritual Practice: 5 Smooth Stones Contemplative Photography

With the 5 Smooth Stones as inspiration, recruit a youth/adult team to coordinate a collaborative virtual photo project. Starting with the story of the 5 smooth stones, as inspired by James Luther Adams,

“A Place of Wholeness”

<https://www.uua.org/re/tapestry/youth/wholeness/workshop1/167560.shtml>

Then after some virtual group reflection on the 5 smooth stones, recruit youth/adult leaders to launch the 5 contemplative photo project, centered on values brought forth from the 5 smooth stones of “Hope, Joy, Love, Justice, Courage” – create stone activity packs for use at home – youth prep/create 5 smooth stone bags, delivered to participating youths home addresses. They then are asked to decorate with word or image each stone, for each of the 5 values; then place the stones in natural settings and take photo for posting on a thematic week collaboration. Congregation can also experience this photo journey; the photos could be utilized in worship; small group ministry, with a centering question (created by the youth). Such as for the “Hope” stone... *what unexpected sources of hope have you discovered in this time of pandemic?*

<https://www.uua.org/youth/library/bringing-web-life/workshop-2-living-covenant>

Aspirational Covenant Building – take 4-5 weeks to explore the centering questions authored by Jennica Davis-Hockett in this youth ministry resource, “Bringing the Web to Life.”

“This Book is Anti-Racist” by Tiffany Jewell

20 lessons on how to wake up, and take action...there are also accompanying videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uJQNaQ-IQk>

Social Justice:

Commission on Institutional Change Report:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/cic/widening>

Has potential as a RPR and YPP –

COIC REPORT - excerpts on Young People, Youth, & Young Adults

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SxDHvWSaS_Hnyl8BdjgB7CaPfO1HWC4Ga5SYcDE27Pc/edit#

UU The Vote:

<https://www.uuthevote.org>

<https://acespace.org>

Alliance for Climate Education: we educate young people on the science of climate change and empower them to take action.

<https://www.sunrisemovement.org>

Sunrise is launching the Wide Awake Leadership Program to give you the knowledge and skills you need to become a leader in this movement. As a part of the Wide Awake program, you'll get training, 1-1 coaching and key resources that will give you the skills you need to organize wherever you live. We have dedicated programs for High School students, HBCU students, college students, the Latinx community and a program for any young person who wants to organize in their neighborhood or town.