

Living Table

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

This Week with Living Table UCC



Message from Pr. Rachael

Happy New Year! Merry Christmas! Happy Epiphany! These are all appropriate greetings this week. The new year has begun, Christmas ends on the sixth, and the Epiphany season begins on the sixth as well. The word "epiphany" means "reveal." In the Christian context the season of Epiphany begins with the visit of the magi to the Christ-child, touches on Christ's baptism, and concludes (this year on February 14th) with Transfiguration Sunday. It is a season for attending to where God shows up in the world and in our lives.

As we begin 2021, I invite you to reflect on the sacred moments of 2020. Where did you encounter, experience, or witness the Holy in the midst of all the hard times? Has anything shifted in your understanding of who God is that will be helpful in the coming days? What questions have arisen about God or faith that you might seek answers for this year? Where are you most likely to seek God in 2021?

No matter what else happens in the world, we can say for certain that 2021 will bring significant change to the Living Table Community. These changes will be more positive than the changes forced in 2020, yet they will likely bring their share of

stress. The building is on the market and plans for renovation of the new space are definitely underway. Perhaps the end of pandemic will come at the same time our new space is completed. What might you need in this time of transition so that you are open to how God might be revealed in the ongoing process of discernment and planning?

Every year leaves us changed in some way. The changes of 2020 are certainly more noticeable than in other years, and, for many of us, much more painful. We all hope and pray for better days in 2021. Let's keep ourselves open to new possibilities for hope, healing, and love as we continue to ask how we can best embody Christ here and now.

May this New Year and this Epiphany season reveal the light of God's love shining brightly in and through us all, and in and through all our neighbors.

Be safe.
Be well.
Shine brightly.
Pr. Rachael

Calendar

All Living Table events are Virtual, see All Things for Online Church for Zoom Links: <http://www.livingtable.org/all-things-for-online-church.html>

Tuesday:

6:30 pm Congregational Care Meeting

Wednesday:

10 am Virtual Tea with Pastor Rachael

5 pm Centering Prayer Group

Thursday:

6:30 pm Grief and Loss Group

Saturday:

8 am Morning Bible Study Group reading Luke

Sunday:

9:15 am Adult Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

View the full calendar in the [Calendar](#) tab on our website.

All Things for Online Church

Death of Linda Hubbard

Please pray for the family and friends of Linda Hubbard, who died from COVID-19. We will share information about her Celebration of Life Service when it is available.

New Video for Living Table

Erika made us a new long form internet commercial video. It is on Facebook and YouTube and we hope you will share it wherever you'd like to share

Living Table and/or invite others to join us. Erika says that when we're in the new space, and able to be physically in the same room again, she'll make a new video then too. This updates us for now. Here are the links to the video, which is also on the church website:

On YouTube: <https://youtu.be/CHjKqINor3s>

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/920000871465362/videos/4163291223684939>

Daily Mini Service Becomes a Weekly Mini Service

Since the Daily Advent Mini Services were attended and appreciated by many people, Pr. Rachael will continue a Mini Service on a weekly basis. Starting next week, on Wednesday, January 6, at 6 pm. The mini service will include a reading and time for prayer and will be on both Facebook Live and Youtube.

Worship Liturgists and Readers Needed

It seems that the Google Form was more confusing than helpful. So we will do this week by week. For this Sunday, January 10, we need one reader. If you are able to read this week, please contact Pr. Rachael. However, if you are able to be liturgist or reader in the coming weeks, please let Pr. Rachael know. It would be a little easier to have volunteers ahead of time.

New Topic for Sunday School

The Sunday School class will discuss *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James Cone. If you would like to join the discussion, please get a copy of the book. If you have any trouble getting the book, please let Pr. Rachael know, and she'll get one to you.

UCC Special Offering

The final UCC Special Offering is called the Christmas Fund (formerly Veterans of the Cross). It goes to retired pastors with low incomes, who often served when ministers were not well compensated and therefore don't get much Social Security. The pandemic has been especially hard on them. The fund helps with emergency grants and health premiums, and it sends small Christmas "Thank You" gift checks in December. We will collect for this offering the rest of this month.

Zoom Passwords Required

All Zoom meetings now require a passcode. Thursday's Table talk contains all the meetings and passcodes for Living Table. If you cannot find what you need, please contact Pr. Rachael. They will not be shared on our website. You, however, are free to share them with anyone interested in attending Living Table activities.

All Things for Online Church

Interested in Donating to the Church?

Donate Now

Living Table is a compassionate community drawn together in Christ to
embody love, seek justice, and invite healing

