



# Worship

**Sunday services are now be hosted on Zoom.  
Please read our weekly eletter for updates.**

"THE CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING" Rev [Margaret Weis](#)

The church is not a place; it is a people.

The church is not only a steeple above the tree line, streets, and cars.  
Rather, it is a people proclaiming to the world that  
we are here for the work of healing and of justice.

The church is not walls built stone upon stone, held together by mortar  
but rather person, linked with person, linked with person:  
all ages and genders and abilities—  
a community built on the foundation of reason, faith, and love.  
The church is not just a set of doors open on Sunday morning,  
but the commitment day after day, and moment after moment,  
of our hearts creaking open the doors of welcome to the possibility of new experience and radical  
welcome.

The church is not simply a building, a steeple, a pew.

The church is the gathering together of all the people, and experiences,  
and fear, and love, and hope in our resilient hearts;  
gathering, however we can, to say to the world:  
welcome, come in, lay down your heartache, and pick up hope and love.

For the church is us—each and every one of us—together,  
a beacon of hope to this world that so sorely needs it.



# News & Notes

## JULY 2020 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### "HOLDING PATTERN"

It's almost July, 2020, and it feels like we're in a holding pattern; like being aboard a long distance flight unable to land because of conditions on the ground. At the end of March, One Island Family suspended in-person Sunday services because of COVID-19, as our community sheltered for the world wide pandemic. Within a few weeks we began to connect by Zoom and our members and friends responded warmly. Those who left for the season continued to tune in with us on Sunday mornings. Members who have stayed beyond their usual time of leaving for northern homes are still in the Florida Keys and contributing their time and talents to our Sunday zoom programs. The pandemic has given us the gift of time to connect, assist and listen to each other. We have had members reaching out to others in need.

At this moment we do not know when we will resume in person services. We have invited the groups that normally use our sanctuary for classes to begin their return to our space if they can plan to do so with the COVID-19 safety guidelines. So far one class held a few sessions, carefully marking the sanctuary floor with tape for social distance spacing. But watching the data on the outbreak of cases in Florida, that leader reports that he may suspend the class again in an abundance of caution.

Your One Island Family board members met on June 23 in our sanctuary. We wore masks and sat at long tables more than 6 feet apart, following recommended protocols. We decided to continue making zoom programs available to our congregation through July and August! So we hope you will continue to join us. Please offer your ideas for topics and step up to volunteer as a presenter on zoom. We value and appreciate your continued financial support as well. Let us watch, listen and learn together as we hold each other in our UU community of care.

Marilyn Smith

**Pledge Payment.** With the physical attendance at Sunday services suspended, getting your pledge payment to us has become an issue for some members. So I want to pass along what several members have found as alternatives. First, there's the good old US Post Office and just mailing in a check to: OIF Treasurer, 801 Georgia St, Key West, FL 33040. Second, another alternative being used by other member is Bill Pay. With Bill Pay you can arrange with your bank to send a check in the amount you specify directly to: OIF Treasurer, 801 Georgia St, Key West, FL 33040. Another advantage of this method is it can be set up as a recurring payment, thus you don't have to remember every month to go through the Bill Pay or check writing/ mailing process. Any question feel free to give me a call: 757-285-1609 or email: [dave.arnold@netzero.net](mailto:dave.arnold@netzero.net)

## **ONE ISLAND FAMILY NEWS:**

We want to share this tribute to Bob Richardson created by the Key West Literary Seminar director, Arlo Haskell:

<https://mailchi.mp/kwls.org/elizabeth-bishops-home-and-ours-640310?e=d7cd7096ed>

## **OIF PROGRAM:**

July 5, 2020 Stroll through the Garden at 11:00 a.m.- We invite our members and friends to meet at the Key West Botanical Garden, 5201 College Rd. It is free for locals, as always on the first Sunday of the month. Kindly wear a mask and plan to practice social distancing. Look for us at the visitors center entrance. We are hoping to make a zoom link available, but are still exploring all that would be needed to make that possible. So we hope to make this an in-person event for as many of our members and friends as possible. Please note that if you are coming from Key West, because of the Cow Key Bridge Construction you will not be making a left hand turn into College Rd. immediately after you cross the bridge. There is now a new traffic signal at the upper end of College Rd, so you can turn left there, pass the hospital and the College of the Florida Keys, to the Botanical Garden. See you there!

## **CARING CONNECTIONS:**

### **From Geoff Kaufman, UU guest presenter and winter visitor to OIF from Connecticut:**

Dear Joy, Marilyn and all of the One Island Family,

We have just read in our local paper a notice of Bob Richardson's death. I send love and condolence to all at the loss of this special member of the congregation. I am deeply saddened by his passing as I had always felt a special connection with him through Annie's writing which I have used in my "Natural Reflections" piece. I will now need to read his writing which I have not gotten around to before.

If it is at all possible I would appreciate my thoughts of love and support being passed on to Annie.

In peace, hope and harmony,

Geoff Kaufman

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### **From Nancy Kerner, Audrey Waldman's sister:**

Thanks so much for inviting me to join. I really miss my times in Key West and my friends at One Island Family.

I wanted to share the story of my nephew - similar to Christopher Reeve - but wanted the focus to be on what Audrey had to say. My nephew's name was Jeff Katcher - son of my sister-in-law from my first marriage. At the age of 18 he was training for the Olympics and became a quadrapalegic due to a fall that occurred when going over the high bars. He had no use of any part of his body beneath his neck. He moved away from Long

Island, NY - the location of his family - because he didn't wish to be a burden to his family. Using some settlement money he moved to Chattanooga Tennessee where he designed a small ranch home to be operated from his computer. He did have a full time aid but managed to do many chores using his mind. For example, using the equivalent of a straw in his mouth he pressed the keys on a computer to do various functions such as open or close blinds etc. In addition, he eventually opened a gym where he could use his expertise and vocal and mental abilities to train future gymnasts. I visited him several times and was thunderstruck by his accomplishments and especially the continuous smile on his face expressing a zest for life. He lived for more than a decade past his accident contributing much to the world including serving as a mentor to many youth.

I think we all have so many stories to share. In many ways, the ability to share virtually has improved lives. A member of a group that I sing with just started Hospice care due to pancreatic cancer that was no longer responding to chemo along with kidney failure. Our group arranged a "love fest" for her with different members offering a 3 to 5 minute offering of whatever they chose - a song, a poem etc. I told a true story of a "life changing moment for me". My true story illustrates that Our Influence with our dear friends and family does not end when we pass but goes on in spirit and guidance. She indicated she heard the message and appreciated it!

Nancy ☐ ☐

**From Charlotte Selton, daughter of Ron Selge:**

I am now back in Sacramento with my parents, Ron and Jorge. Thank you so much for your support while I was isolated in BPK! Beyond the material advice around getting mail, it was also nice to know someone nearby, even if normal get-togethers weren't (aren't) safe.

A brief update on what's going on for me: I just started a new job with the American Physical Society, helping to administer a grassroots effort for Nuclear Weapons Threat Reduction. I'm working remotely for now, but will eventually work out of their DC office, Covid-19 precautions permitting.

How are you doing? How is Key West now that it has reopened to tourists?

Thank you! Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,  
Charlotte

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**From Joe Weinstein, UU guest presenter from Tarpon Springs, FL:**

Hi there, Hope this finds you guys well. What strange times! Are we getting weary of this yet?

John and I think fondly of our visits. Only three months since we would have been there a third time, but it seems like three years! There have been a few silver linings. I have connected with several old friends and a nephew and a neice . . . I go in "sputs and spurts" with church Zoom. It's great in its own way; then it just reinforces what we lack, each other in person and big hugs all around. This too shall pass.

Love to hear from you.

Joe

Several of our members joined the Key West march on Juneteenth. The person at the front of this group is our own Liz Levi. Leland Hurd was also chose to march rather than attend the Key West High School in- person graduation. We applaud your activism!”



“One Island Family youth are continuing their Heart Talk program in their own zoom sessions. On July 21 they practiced conflict resolution with Astoria and Sonya.”

The image is a screenshot of a Zoom meeting screen. At the top, the Zoom interface is visible, including the menu bar (zoom.us Meeting View Edit Window Help), a status bar (You are screen sharing, Stop Share), and a participant name (Talking: Astoria Nickerson). The main content is a slide titled "Conflict Resolution Steps!". On the left side of the slide, there is a purple quote: "Just a little bit of kindness is all it takes!". The slide lists three steps in a flowchart format:

- First Step-** Listen for the other person's needs. Ask if your guesses are correct.
- Second Step-** Share your needs, and ask the other person to reflect them back.
- Third Step-** When both people are heard and understood, brainstorm ways to get both needs met!

In the center of the slide, there is a grey oval containing the text "They are all connected!". Arrows point from this central oval to each of the three steps, indicating that all steps are interconnected and essential for the process.

One Island Family  
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Monthly Calendar: <http://www.oneislandfamily.org/calendar>