

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – SUMMER SERVICES 2022

OFFER YOUR HEART, MIND, AND SPIRIT FOR OUR SUMMER LAY-LED SERVICES

Every summer the Worship Associates plan and help deliver a series of lay-led services, organized around a unifying theme. We have chosen the theme of *Compassion* for Summer 2022. Dictionaries define compassion as a sympathetic concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others, and a desire to alleviate that suffering or distress. In the classical teachings of the Buddhist tradition, compassion is often described as “the heart that trembles in the face of suffering.” The Dalai Lama says that compassion “belongs to that category of emotions which have a more developed cognitive component.” Compassion embodies both feeling and action. Certainly, these past two years have called upon our compassion in unprecedented ways.

Would you be interested in offering a sermon for one of our summer Sunday services? Please consider how you might help our congregation explore this theme, by sharing any experiences or understanding of compassion in your own life and learning. We want to hear from a wide variety of UU members — older/younger, abled/differently abled, LGBTQIA, working/retired, parenting, partnered/single.

Here are some questions we can all respond to:

- What does compassionate leadership look like, and where have you experienced it, or enabled it?
- Why is compassion important?
- How do you foster compassion? In yourself? In your family? In an organization?
- What are the characteristics/qualities of a compassionate person? Of a compassionate act?
- How do you show compassion to self?
- What is the nature of “compassion fatigue” in today’s demanding and challenging world? How do we move beyond it?
- How do we understand the relationship between empathy and compassion?
- What gets in the way of compassion?
- How do UU principles and Sources of Wisdom help deepen our personal and collective compassion?

Please submit this summer service proposal form and share your stories, your thoughts, and your insights to these questions to help us plan the summer program. **The deadline for submission is the end of April.** Thank you for your interest and ideas!

INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete this form to the best of your ability, save a copy to your computer and [upload it directly](#) to us by the end of April 2022. The Worship Associates Team will follow up with any questions, clarifications, or responses to your proposal. The Worship Associates will meet on May 7th to review the proposals and will select those that best fit together and will follow up with submitters in May.

Our goal is to have more proposals than available Sundays. If that happens, some proposals will be accepted, and some will not be. We appreciate your understanding and encourage you to resubmit ideas (or develop new ones!) for future summer services.

GENERAL SUNDAY SERVICE INFORMATION

Summer services are from 10-11 am on Sundays and are multiplatform, with both online and in-person congregants following current COVID guidelines. A Worship Associate will partner with you in leading the service and can help take care of any standard portions of the service (e.g., Welcome, Chalice Lighting, Offering). The typical unique presentation time available for you will be 20 minutes total, including readings, the reflection or presentation, and congregation response time (if desired).

**PLEASE COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THIS FORM,
INCLUDING SCHEDULING PREFERENCE**

Your Name:

Describe your connection to UUS:

Best way to reach you:

Alternative way to reach you:

Title of Proposed Service:

Description of Service: (Briefly describe the topic of your service and its connection to the summer theme of compassion and/or to specific [UU Principles](#))

Suggested music, readings, or speakers to augment your service proposal:

Please identify any special equipment or other considerations (room layout, videos, specific date request, etc.) you envision being needed to make your presentation a success.

SCHEDULE OF SUMMER 2022 SUNDAY SERVICES

Date Preferences:

To help us plan the summer schedule, please let us know your first, second and third choices of Sundays to share in the service. ***Also, indicate any dates you are not available.*** We will try to accommodate you. Thank you.

- _____ June 19, 2022
- _____ July 3, 2022
- _____ July 10, 2022
- _____ July 24, 2022
- _____ July 31, 2022
- _____ August 7, 2022
- _____ August 14, 2022

THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to propose a service and consider sharing your story with the UUS community.

How to Submit:

1. Fill out form and save to your computer. Please include your last name in the filename.
2. Upload a copy to the Worship Associates Dropbox using the following link:
<https://www.dropbox.com/request/e2OuKNXRJ6niDPs7Z5s4>
3. Find this form on our website: <https://www.uusic.org/offer-your-heart-mind-and-spirit-for-our-summer-lay-led-services/>