



And the River Keeps Flowing

Like the Yuba River, named by the Nisenan, which continues steadily down its path, UUCM has navigated the boulders, eddies, twists, and turns thrown in *our* path for the last two years.

It hasn't been easy, but...

Sunday services were transformed to keep our weekly gathering a true sanctuary to sustain our faith during tumultuous times. We learned how to use Zoom to fill our need to connect. We even brought back some members who live more than 100 miles away, thanks to this technology. Setting it up called for remarkable dedication and ingenuity from our Worship and Audiovisual teams. It called for you to be patient and flexible, and you were. *Imagine if we had not been able to do this!*

The congregation kept up our charitable giving to places like Sierra Roots, Habitat for Humanity, Color Me Human, and The Yuba Land Trust, understanding the financial struggle of non-profits during these times. It often seems our world grows less caring of basic human rights and less concerned with the preservation of nature. *Not here! Not us!*

Our strong commitment to social justice continued and grew through the reinvigorated efforts of the Justice Team, the Nisenan Task Force, and partnership with the Citizens' Climate Lobby. We've marshaled our enthusiastic writers to send letters through the newly created "Stop the Mine" Task Force to prevent the callous reopening of the Idaho Maryland mine, which would destroy our quality of life in Grass Valley. Soon we will work again with Vote Forward to get voters to the polls for the critical, midterm elections. *We are showing up!*

Looking down the river: Our congregation and the scope of our reach has grown during Reverend Kevin's time with us, including the addition of multi-platform Zoom and in-person services. Along with exploring options for a new facility or modernizing the current one, we must prepare for Reverend Kevin's well-deserved Renewal Leave. This sabbatical is important for him and for our congregation. While he is gone, we must take on many of the tasks our minister has been carrying out, but which are more appropriately done by administrative staff who are still either part-time or volunteers. It is a time to assess and redistribute the workload of supporting UUCM. Your pledges will have a direct impact on our efforts while he is gone, but especially after he returns.

UUCM will continue to steer the course through the swift currents of change with your generosity and knowing you are part of an amazing community.

With love and respect,

Your Stewardship Team

Maryann Currington, chair, Lesley Champlin, Susan Merrill, Lin Jovanovic, Anita Wald-Tuttle