

UUFM Members and Friends—

I trust you are doing what you can to stay safe in these times. As you know, we have suspended all group meetings (including worship services) at UUFM until the public health directives tell us otherwise. This current health crisis is accompanied by increased financial challenges facing individuals at the time when UUFM is called to do *more* in our community to serve as a bridge and exert leadership reflecting our values

This last Sunday was supposed to be **our annual collection for ECHO Food Shelf**. And although we didn't hold that collection, the need for ECHO's services is greater than ever! So we will still hold the collection—at a safe social distance. You can mail a check to the UUFM (937 Charles Ave, Mkt0 56001) with ECHO in the subject line; or you can go to our webpage (<https://uumankato.com/connections/donate/>) and make a contribution there. You will have the option to designate where to direct your contribution (pledge, ECHO, etc.)

In fact, if you have been using the **Sunday collection to fulfill your pledge to our spiritual home**, you can continue to do likewise—a check in the mail, or an online contribution. Or you could handle it by switching over to electronic transfer of funds, by sending a copy of a blank check to Linda (uumankato@gmail.com) along with the amount you wish to have withdrawn, the day of the month or week, and the frequency of withdrawal (e.g., weekly on Tuesday, monthly on the 3rd and 18th, etc.).

Even though we are not meeting face-to-face, **the work continues**. Rev. Rita, our CFD Director Macey Forsyth, and our Office Administrator Linda Ganske are all still hard at work (from home, when feasible) providing services and keeping things going. The Board has also voted to continue to pay the wages of the childcare providers who had been scheduled to work even though those days have been suspended; they are depending on that income just as much as we have depended on them.

It is **your generosity that makes all this possible**. Many of our members and friends are coping with increased stress and with finances and resources made more fragile by current uncertainties. In these uniquely challenging times, if you are able please consider reaching more deeply in your financial commitment to sustain the UUFM.

Thank you, for all that you do.

Tony Filipovitch,
Board President