

## A Guide to Rev. Greg Pelley's Sabbatical January – June 2022

The sabbatical leave is a tradition for Unitarian Universalist clergy, as well as other faith traditions. It offers clergy an extended time for study, reflection, rest, and renewal. It is part of our congregation's covenant agreement with Rev. Greg as our minister which provides one month of leave for each full year of service and may accrue up to a maximum of six months. Rev. Greg has been ministering at Mill Creek since 2014, or 7 years. It was Rev. Greg's decision, due to the unexpected COVID-19 pandemic, to delay his sabbatical until January 2022. During this six-month sabbatical period (January 1 through June 30, 2022), Rev. Greg will primarily be seeking spiritual refreshment and renewal needed to continue his ministry here at Mill Creek.

### Church Operations

We have prepared this guide to assist you during Rev. Greg's sabbatical with the hope that it will provide you with all the information you need, with the added assurance that all church operations will continue as usual during this time. Our Congregational Administrator, Debra Damiani, is a primary contact and will forward your concerns or questions as appropriate. Church office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 am to 1 pm; 302-369-2712; [administrator@uusmc.org](mailto:administrator@uusmc.org) Otherwise, refer to the list below for more contact information.

### Whom to Contact

Adult Religious Exploration	Karen Rege	<a href="mailto:karenrege@gmail.com">karenrege@gmail.com</a>
Agape and Minister's Discretionary Fund Management	Steve Selph	<a href="mailto:mutiny397@yahoo.com">mutiny397@yahoo.com</a>
Board of Trustees	John Springer	<a href="mailto:board@uusmc.org">board@uusmc.org</a>
Bookkeeping	Lauri Rickard	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@uusmc.org">bookkeeper@uusmc.org</a>
Children's/Youth Religious Exploration	Blythe Duffy	<a href="mailto:blytheduffy@gmail.com">blytheduffy@gmail.com</a>
	Lisa Steinberg	<a href="mailto:lisa.steinberg@gmail.com">lisa.steinberg@gmail.com</a>
	Isabella Weber	<a href="mailto:iceweber@gmail.com">iceweber@gmail.com</a>
Finance Team	Adam Kegley	<a href="mailto:finance@uusmc.org">finance@uusmc.org</a>
Ministerial Intern	Heather Petit	<a href="mailto:heatherapetit@gmail.com">heatherapetit@gmail.com</a>
Music Director	Rachel Sabella	<a href="mailto:music@uusmc.org">music@uusmc.org</a>
Pastoral Care	Brain Hanson	<a href="mailto:pastoralcare@uusmc.org">pastoralcare@uusmc.org</a>
Worship Team	Fran Gulino	<a href="mailto:franqu302@gmail.com">franqu302@gmail.com</a>

### Sunday Worship Services

Sunday Services will continue in Rev. Greg's absence, providing the congregation with stimulating sermons by guest speakers in the pulpit. Here is the schedule:

January 2	Rev. Keith Goheen
January 9	Rev. Andrew L. Weber
January 16	Heather Petit
January 23	Heather Petit

January 30	Rev. Kent Matthies
February 6	Rev. Dave Hunter
February 13	Heather Petit
February 20	Heather Petit
February 27	Rev. Peter Friedrichs
March 6	Rev. Mary Higgins
March 13	Rev. Abbey Tennis
March 20	Heather Petit
March 27	Rev. Kevin Jagoe
April 3	Rev. Dan Schatz
April 10	Rev. McKinley Sims
April 17	Rev. Robert Broesler
April 24	Rachel Sabella
May 1	Dr. Karen Rege
May 8	Big Music Sunday
May 15	Rev. Lee Paczulla
May 22	Rev. Sana Saeed
May 29	Steve Mortenson
June 5	Rev. Keith Goheen
June 12	Rev. Richard Speck
June 19	Rev. Andrew Weber
June 26	Manisha Antani
July 3	Anne Shuman
July 10	Diana Saunders
July 17	Rev. Gregory Pelley

## **Sunday In-Person Worship Service Cancellations**

Should inclement weather impact the safety of attending in-person Sunday Service (typically during the months of January through March), the decision will be made by John Springer, the Worship Associate, and the speaker for that Sunday. If the decision is made to cancel service, the Worship Associate will inform the Music Director, Tech Team, Hospitality, Religious Education coordinator and Adult RE coordinator via email message. A broader message will be shared on the church website and via Facebook and SnoWatch (wdel.com). Regardless of our ability to offer in-person worship, church services will continue to be livestreamed during the entire sabbatical period.

## **Rites of Passage**

Wedding and Union Services; Memorial Services; Child Dedications – during the sabbatical period it will be church policy that these ceremonies must be led by an ordained UU minister. A list is available upon request. The associated fee is to be negotiated between the minister and those requesting the service. There is no facility use (rental) fee for Mill Creek members for these services; non-members must contact the church office for more information.

## **Contacting Rev. Greg During Sabbatical**

The intention of the sabbatical is for our minister to take a complete break from his responsibilities to our congregation. Therefore, there will be no way to contact Rev. Greg during this time. Circumstances of an extreme nature that may warrant contact will be made by the following authorized individuals only:

- Debra Damiani, Congregational Administrator
- John Springer, Board President
- Vicky Tosh-Morelli, Board Vice President