

SINGING BEGINS AGAIN AT UU MIAMI

Dear UUMiami family,

Many of us have waited with baited breath for communal singing to return to our congregation and services. It brings me SUCH joy to let you know that **our communal hymn singing and choir rehearsals will resume, beginning in September.**

As we monitor the newest strain of COVID-19 taking hold on our Miami community, I want to assure you that I have created COVID protocols for our choir, and our Sunday services, with regard to singing together.

For choir rehearsals (Thursdays 7-8:30PM):

- Rehearsals will take place in the Sanctuary (NOT the Emerson Room) to ensure physical distancing and air transfer.
- Our sanctuary and campus are equipped with MERV-13 air filters circulating and scrubbing the air for the entire duration of rehearsals and services.
- All choir members are **required to remain masked** for the entire duration of indoor rehearsal. All members will sing with masks.
- Per the University of Miami Frost School of Music COVID-19 guidelines, rehearsals will have 40 minutes of singing, followed by a 15 minute “air transfer” break. The choir will step outside for these breaks.
- Sunday services will have a physically distanced and masked choir.

As a doctoral student at the University of Miami, I have followed a certain set of studies regarding aerosol transfer as it pertains to singing. Please visit these links for more information on the studies utilized in informing our protocols:

[University of Colorado Boulder - International Coalition of Performing Arts Aerosol Study](#)

[Colorado State University - Reducing Bioaerosol Emissions and Exposures in the Performing Arts: A Scientific Roadmap for a Safe Return from COVID19](#)

For our Sunday services, congregants will remain masked at all times, including when singing. Physical distance is mandatory. Please visit the church website for more information about our UUCM COVID protocols.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding music in the time of coronavirus, or about joining our choir. Reach me at MusicDir@uumiami.org

Looking forward to navigating this time through music and song,

Alex Colaizzi

Music Director | Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Miami

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