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## **Love Will Keep Us Together**

The days, weeks, and months keep flying by and you never known what to expect from moment to moment. Since the beginning of COVID-19, most churches have closed their doors and began using zoom to keep connected. Unity did the same but as soon as we could open our doors to a small group, wear a mask, wash our hands and keep our distance, we did it. We started with the audio and zoom team along with a singer and me. Later two or three more members came back to church. Then as people began to be vaccinated the numbers grew. During the month of May we began to have between thirty and forty at the Sunday service. It was so wonderful to see people you hadn't seen face to face in over a year!

Then Memorial Day weekend came and more of the COVID restrictions had been lifted. People would be traveling and staying with family and friends so I thought we would have fewer people on Sunday. Instead, we had a few more than the week before.

On May 7th the Unity office sent out the news that our beloved Allen Cornelius had made his transition. I don't think Allen ever met a stranger. That's why it was so easy for him to hold so many different positions over the years at Unity Church. He served on the Board of Directors, holding the position of treasurer for several terms. He often served as one of our head Ushers and Greeters .Of course any time Peggy needed him to help unload books or move furniture in the Unity bookstore he was happy to help with anything Peggy needed.

Allen would have been 83 years old on May 28, 2021. The celebration of life for Allen was set on May 30th for family and close friends. Some of you have asked why we didn't send out an announcement about the time and place as we usually do. Due to COVID so many things are "not as usual" and Allen has so many friends that if we had announced the time and place there may not have even been room enough to seat the family. Allen's service was set for 3:00 on Sunday afternoon and by 2:00 people were already coming in.

This wasn't your usual "funeral service." I felt as though Allen was there smiling and welcoming everyone. The fear of getting too close to someone seemed to vanish as people were hugging and smiling. Even without announcing the time and place there were more than a hundred and forty people there! It seemed that Allen had offered each of us the opportunity to release our fears, judgments and differences and remember that we are all family in the eyes of God. Our love for Allen and his wonderful family brought us together that day.

Thank you Allen for reminding us that "Love Will Keep Us Together." Many thanks to each of you that share your love and light with so many people near and far. Thank you also for making Unity..."The place that Love Built!"

**From the Heart with Peace, Love & Blessing,**  
*Reverend Elizabeth*