

## **Heart of the House by Sue Riley**

Almost 40 years ago I answered an ad in the paper for an accompanist at Unity Church of Clearwater. I had been brought up Catholic and thought Unity might be a cult, but they were offering a weekly check, so I applied. Leddy was pregnant with Levi at the time. I was hooked from the very first service, vowing to attend services even if I failed the audition. However, I did get the job and the rest, as they say, is history.

Fast forward 38 years, almost a lifetime. In 2018 I reconnected with my college boyfriend Mike on Facebook. His profile picture was a palm tree, so it was hard to even figure out if I wanted to send a friend request. That step of faith and courage reconnected us and since Mike lives in SC, we've been doing the "long distance" relationship dance for almost 7 years.

Mike and I would now like to reside in the same state, so I have made the difficult decision to move to SC. UCC has been my spiritual home since that fateful audition and this decision was not made lightly. I have such deep roots here at UCC, and such incredible, lifelong friendships and I plan to maintain those friendships. My heart will always reside at UCC.

I plan to "retire" once I make the move which gives me plenty of freedom to visit FL. So, it won't be "goodbye" per se, but more like "see you later."