

# BROOKLYN UNITARIAN

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The newsletter of the First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn, est. 1833



If there's one thing religion is really good for it's zooming the camera of our lives way out. From this vantage point we get to see ourselves as just a spec on the earth and the earth as just a dot in our galaxy and our galaxy as just a dab of paint in the vast cosmos. We get the gift

of perspective in which all our troubles shrink, our human actions and choices fade in significance, and everything is ultimately okay. And then, if our religion is really doing its job right, it also insists that we zoom the camera way back in, back to the level of our everyday lives where the setting and the characters loom large and where what we do and say matters tremendously. From this close-up angle, many things are decidedly not okay and we each have a crucial role in healing our world. Both perspectives are true, both are essential in maintaining spiritual balance so that we fall prey neither to the inertia of nihilism nor to the paralysis of overwhelm.

Last year's "Forward" process was, in a sense, an exercise in exactly this kind of zooming the camera out and in. We looked at ourselves and our congregation in the context of the wide world. We meditated on what role this little group of people could play in the great planetary dramas of our time. And we considered what we wanted to be to and for one another here within these walls. Our sense of purpose that emerged captured both: We are a "joyful, loving, religious, community that inspires and empowers people to grow spiritually, care for one another, and work for social justice and stewardship of the earth." This year we are beginning the process of making this plan a reality, toggling between the big picture and the small.

To support us all in accessing these two ways of seeing, I am offering a sermon series this year – a Unitarian Universalist exploration of the Biblical seven days of creation. This ancient myth takes the reader on the greatest possible metaphysical journey, beginning with the inception of time and space, and zooming the camera all the way in to the level of individual humans and their actions on earth. It's a story that celebrates the extraordinary diversity of our world and illuminates the urgent role humans play in it. I invite you to engage with this story in whatever ways are meaningful to you over the course of this year. Read the text and talk about it with me and others in the congregation. Send me emails with your thoughts and feelings. Musicians, talk with Adam about how you might be able to engage musically!

We are also inviting visual artists in the congregation to consider making a series of seven pieces – one relating to each of the seven days of creation. We will display the pieces in the chapel for the month that corresponds to the sermon on that day. (So we will begin in October with the theme of the creation of light, November will be sky and ocean, etc.) This will not be a curated show – we will accept all submissions as long as they relate to the monthly theme in some way that is either obvious or explainable in an artist statement. I am excited to see our Chapel walls alive with the creative engagement of this community! For more information about this project, please reach out to Brandi Martin ([brandimartin.bkny@gmail.com](mailto:brandimartin.bkny@gmail.com)).

I am looking forward to a wonderful year with all of you as we continue to grow in size and in depth and work toward the wholeness of our gorgeous planet.

Many blessings,  
Rev. Ana

## From the Board of Trustees

Warm greetings to all! I hope you have had an enjoyable and renewing summer. Your trustees have continued to work over the summer to make sure everything is ready for an exciting year at First U Brooklyn. I hope those of you who were here in the spring remember that at the congregation's annual meeting in May we approved our new purpose statement and a Forward Plan to guide us in fulfilling our purpose. Over the summer, the board took the following actions to start us on our way:

We identified potential leaders for three of the Forward Strategy Teams:

- Sabbath Practice – to build on last year's program of Sabbath Sundays.
- Adult Spiritual Growth – Stay tuned for details on this year's activities.
- Leadership Training – First leadership training of the year scheduled for September 2 and 13.

We approved:

- Rev. Ana participating in a yearlong fellowship program through an organization called Greenfaith to train religious/ spiritual leaders to do environmental work in a religious/spiritual context. Ana's fellowship will help the congregation fulfil our Forward goal to become an environmentally responsible congregation that serves as a powerful voice for sustainable living and also our Forward strategy to articulate a religious grounding for social and environmental justice.

- Safety Task Force – to review building safety and security concerns and develop plans and procedures for the congregation
- New members for the Committee on Ministries - Tom Check, James Goward, Lodz Joseph are joining Laurel Hesch and Debbie Barbieri on the committee.
- A policy on Member Weddings at the church – See the First U. website for details.

We scheduled congregational meetings for the year:

- November 15th: Congregational Meeting (Budget, Forward First Update and reports from our delegates to the June General Assembly of Unitarian Universalists)
- February 28th: Congregational Meeting (Budget, Forward First Update and Election of Delegates to the 2016 Metro District Annual Meeting and General Assembly)
- May 1st: Budget Forum
- May 15th: Annual Meeting

This year already looks like another wonderful one for First Unitarian. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at In-gathering Sunday on September 13 and throughout the year as we move forward in developing ourselves as spiritual individuals and in fulfilling our purpose as a congregation.

In faith and fellowship,  
Lee Pardee - President, Board of Trustees  
Roger Cooper, Liz Davis, Elaine Macken, Rachel Michael,  
Mary Most, Jeff Muller, Kurt Steele

## From the Director of Congregational Life

Happy end of summer to all! I hope that each of you had a chance to take a few days of vacation (even if just to visit Coney Island or Brooklyn Bridge Park) and that you were able to visit First Unitarian for any of our wonderful Sunday services. I was able to spend a few days with my mother on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, a week with my daughter and her family right here in New York, a week at Unirondack, the Unitarian Universalist summer camp in the western Adirondacks (ask me more about that experience, I'd love to share) and a long weekend with my friend, and your Board President, Lee Pardee in Montreal. I am very blessed to have had such a lovely summer.

That's not to say that the office and building staff hasn't been working hard. With help from our able office volunteer, Pat Bernstein, we undertook a complete reorganization of the office area including tidying the library, reorganizing closets and shelves and generally making the area more efficient and more pleasant. Come take a look!

There is much more to be done. Before In-Gathering on September 13th, we will undertake a complete clean-up of the closet behind the Frances White Room and make space for storage of materials that are currently kept in the passthrough between the Chapel and

the Undercroft. It is our intention to make all of our spaces tidier and more welcoming.

That said, it is up to you, our members and friends, to help us maintain our spaces. This year, I am starting a “Keep it Clean” initiative, reminding all of us that our building is home to a community of people who work and worship together. Each of us is responsible for turning out lights, making sure food garbage is left only in the kitchen, picking up after meetings and gatherings and, especially, not leaving anything in the church building without permission, or in any place that has not been designated as appropriate storage. Let’s “Keep it Clean” together!

Speaking of being together, our Faith in Action Expo is planned for September 20th. This is the time to sign-up for Small Groups and Dinner Groups, learn about Religious Education programs and Twenties and Thirties activities and sign-up to serve our congregation as a greeter or usher or to prepare soup and sandwiches. All that and much, much more. I hope to see you there.

If I haven’t seen you this summer, I look Forward! to our reunion on September 13th, In-Gathering Sunday. Until then, enjoy these waning days of summer.

In Service, Garnett

## **FUUDGE (First UU Dinner Groups Extraordinaire) Begin Soon**

Joining a First Unitarian dinner group is a wonderful way to build community, socialize with fellow congregants and enjoy a meal together. Each group meets monthly on Saturday evenings in October, November and December. (See dates below.) In January existing groups can continue to meet if they choose and new groups will be formed. Each group will decide where and what to eat. They can choose to meet in someone’s home or at a restaurant. They can opt for potluck or order in pizza or go out for Chinese food. Most groups will be a mixture of new and longtime members. If there is enough interest, we will create a group for families with children. Attendance is important to making groups successful so mark the dates on your calendar now. You can find out more information and sign up for a group in the undercroft at our Faith in Action Expo following worship on September 13th or by emailing Rachel Michael at [rdmichael\\_14@yahoo.com](mailto:rdmichael_14@yahoo.com), subject: FUUDGE.

**FUUDGE Dates:** Saturday October 10th, Saturday November 14th, Saturday December 12th

Rachel Michael- Chair, Membership Committee

## **Sunday Morning Silent Meditation – Beginning Fall 2015**

### **First Meeting September 13th, in the Chapel**

This fall we will begin a silent meditation practice in the chapel before service. If you have a practice or if you want to try mediation, you are welcome to “sit” on Sunday mornings. No prior experience is required and all are welcome to participate. This will be a quiet time to sit in community with members and friends of FUUB. In addition it will provide an opportunity for Religious Education leaders to engage in adult worship. The format for the practice is simple; we will begin at 10:00AM with opening words, we will review simple guidelines, and then we will sit for 30 minutes of silent meditation followed by time for reflection at the end. We will conclude in time to attend the worship service in the sanctuary. Childcare will be provided in the nursery beginning at 10:00 am.

For information or questions contact: Dawn Brekke [dawn.brekke@gmail.com](mailto:dawn.brekke@gmail.com) subject: Sundaymeditation

## **First Tuesdays Daytime Discussion Group to Begin on October 6th.**

Join Rev. Ana and members and friends of First Unitarian for conversation and fellowship. This will be a monthly discussion series exploring the spiritual dimensions of our ordinary lives. At our initial meeting we will make plans for topics and formats for the coming year. We will gather in the library at 3:00PM. Come to the 48 Monroe Place door and ring the bell for the office. Tea and cookies will be served. We hope to see you there.

# A Message from Meagan, Director of Education Ministries

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I am with a group of UU teens who are in the midst of their Goldmine Youth Leadership training. We've been learning about the connections between UU's and pirates, zombies, and vampires! But seriously, I am overwhelmed by their excitement about the future of our movement and their deep love for the type of community our congregations foster. Their exuberance is catching, and now I can't wait to be back at First U with all of you!

I'm looking forward to this year, not only because it is the beginning of my third year but because of all the fun things and deep spiritual exploration ahead of us. We will continue spiritual parenting discussion groups and starting a new group for parents of babies and

## Religious Education

We know September is Back to School month- with all of the supply shopping, new shoe fitting, nervous first days and getting back into early morning routines. Here at First U, it's also Back to Church time! We hope you and your children have enjoyed a fun and fruitful summer together, whether your summer included camp or trips, or just visits to the local pool. Our first Sunday together is September 13th for our Multi-Generational Service and Water In-Gathering. Bring a little bit of water from your adventures! (or, from your tap, while you remember your adventures!)

Sunday School classes begin September 20th. So here is your "Back to Church" TO DO list:

**1. Register your child/ren and youth!** We need NEW registrations every year. Please make sure to update us about your child/ren's allergies, medications or other special considerations. Registration is done online. All children and youth who will attend more than three classes this year must be registered. A registration link will be in the RE e-news, or you can reach out to Meagan Henry for the link.

**2. Talk with your child/ren about your church routines.** Make a plan with them about how your Sundays will go- whether you are observing a Sabbath day, or if church is a part of a busy day of practices and classes. Remind your children about expectations for behavior

toddlers, headed up by Kristin Schall. I will also be working with the new Adult Spiritual Growth Team as part of the Forward plan. If that's not enough excitement, we have a new Youth Ministry Coordinator, Rebecca Chin, beginning in September and I can't wait to have her on our team. (See more about Rebecca in this issue.)

We have so much to be thankful for and we have so much to look forward to in this and subsequent years as we grow and change and as we continue to hold one another in the loving embrace of beloved community. I'm grateful to be on this journey with all of you and I'm looking forward to another year together.

In the Spirit of Community, Meagan

and participation in Sunday services and classes. Make a fun lunch plan! Some families like to bring a picnic or bag lunch to share after services, while others take turns choosing their favorite Sunday lunch spot.

**3. Sign up to Volunteer!** As always our Religious Education programming is at its best when we have lots of participation from parents and caregivers! We always need teachers for classes, volunteers for the Winter Festival of Lights, and snacks for the Halloween and Holiday Celebrations. We hope that all families will sign up for at least one volunteer opportunity. Look for sign-up invitations in your email or contact Meagan Henry or Becky Huffman to volunteer.

We welcome all families to join in our Religious Education activities. For more information about our programs, please contact: Meagan Henry, [meagan@fuub.org](mailto:meagan@fuub.org) or Becky Huffman, [becky7676@gmail.com](mailto:becky7676@gmail.com)

### Mark Your Calendars!

**9/20 12:45PM - First of the Spiritual Parenting** discussion series led by Rev. Ana and Meagan Henry. The topic for 9/20 is Rituals at Home with Rev Ana.

**10/25 - Halloween Party!** Come dressed in your spooky best!

**12/20 - Festival of Lights and Winter Celebration!**

## **First Unitarian Welcomes, Rebecca Chin, Our New Youth Ministry Coordinator**

The High School Youth Program has been growing-- this past year we led a Youth Service in the sanctuary, our members attended Metro New York sponsored youth CON (short for conference) weekends, and with significant financial support from congregants, we travelled to Boston for a spring pilgrimage. We are pleased to announce that the Women's Alliance has recognized these successes and has elected to fund a new Youth Ministries Coordinator position this year. This role will support youth, families, advisors, and allies to build a healthy, thriving youth programming.

Rebecca Chin has accepted an offer to be our first Coordinator! Brooklyn-raised, Rebecca is a long-time member of First U. She completed Our Whole Lives (OWL), our Sexuality Education program and Coming of Age, and represented First U as a youth delegate at

the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly. Rebecca also co-led her college UU student group. Last spring she served as an advisor for a CON attended by several First U youth, and she remembered being their Religious Education teacher when they were very young.

In Rebecca's own words:

"My vision for the Youth Group is to empower the youth to be responsible and contributing leaders in their communities through the ongoing programming, Youth Group gatherings following Sunday service, and hands-on experiential learning such as fundraisers, service projects, and trips. I'd like to build upon the strong supportive community that First U has already established so we can all help guide the teens in their leadership development."

## **Small Group Ministry to Start Up This Fall**

Small Group Ministry Small Group Ministry (SGM) is intentional lay-led groups of 6-10 people that deepen and expand the ministry of the congregation. By meeting in small groups, people have the opportunity to build relationships and deep-dive into spiritual discussions in a structured environment.

The First Unitarian Small Group Ministry (SGM) program is gearing up for the new church year. There was a wonderful program last year with five groups and 34 participants. Service projects included food preparation and gardening for the congregation.

One group volunteered to prepare the meal for First U's Passover Seder, where they spent a few hours peeling and chopping vegetables and chatting about their lives. They found it was a great way to spend time getting to know each other even better. Another group prepared food for the annual auction. Both groups enjoyed working together to prepare food to nourish our community. Another group of SGM – "Earth Mothers," spread mulch, weeded and cut branches. It was a morning filled with fun and conversation while working the land.

This year I will be coordinating the Small Group program and organizing the fall roster of groups. There

will be two training / introduction workshops for SGM on the following dates:

**Saturday September 12th 10:00 am – 12:00** and  
**Thursday September 17th 7:00 – 9:00 pm**

This past year we conducted a survey of Small Group participants. Below is a selection of the comments we received:

*"As a new member, I found it to be quite helpful as a way to get connected to other members of the church in a deeper, more meaningful way."*

*"I loved meeting members of the community. I am not a member, but I feel a much stronger sense of community at FUUB now."*

*"It's valuable when we connect as a community and this is something that furthers that mission."*

If you have been interested in joining a SGM or have an inclination to facilitate a group please join us for one of our trainings or sign-up to join a group at our Faith in Action Expo on September 20th following worship. If you have questions, you can reach me directly at dawn.brekke@gmail.com subject: SGM.

# From our Director of Music

## *Forward!* In Song

Hello members and friends of First Unitarian! Adam Podd here, your (now seasoned) Director of Music. I am thrilled to be starting my second year serving the First Unitarian community, with some valuable perspective gained from leading the choir and congregation through one full program year of music. I'm excited to pick up the momentum from where we left off, seek new and meaningful opportunities for music making, and sink even deeper into the rich musical traditions which already exist here at First Unitarian.

## **New and Returning Section Leaders**

We will begin this church year with some new, but familiar singers in our regular section-leader positions. Most of you will recognize our new permanent bass, Wayne Paul, who sang with us off-and-on for most of the spring last year, as well as our new permanent alto section-leader, Liz Bachman, who has subbed in the past, filling in for Melissa Paul-Perez after she stepped down from the position and into motherhood last June. A new tenor will also join the team. I am sad to announce that Marielle Murphy, our soprano soloist for the past three years, will not be returning this fall. The good news is that Marielle will be singing in Germany this fall and in Florida this winter. It is wonderful to see her career taking off and we wish her the best of luck. Marielle has offered to sing with the choir when she is in town and I expect to hold her to that promise. New tenor and soprano section leaders will join Wayne and Liz. An announcement will be made in the coming days. This will complete the professional quartet which supports our otherwise volunteer choir.

## **Joining the Choir**

All are welcome in the choir, and while we have a wide range of experienced and amateur singers, above all I ask that you have a joy for singing. The choir meets for rehearsal at 9:00 on Sunday mornings in the Francis White room, where we learn and practice all the music for the day, and some music for future worship services. There is no regular weeknight rehearsal. The only time commitments during the normal church year are on Sunday mornings before and during worship. We do schedule some extra weeknight rehearsals in preparation for Christmas Eve and Palm Sunday services.

One of the most common deterrents from joining in

the choir that I hear is the difficulty of committing to every week. From the director's perspective, this has often been a difficult obstacle for me to address, because on the one hand, I want everybody who's interested to have the opportunity to sing. On the other hand, a "come and go as you please" policy creates chaos from one rehearsal to the next. With that in mind, I've decided on a new, more tangible policy for choir singers: Three Sundays a month - simple as that! This is less of a strict attendance policy, and more of a guideline for those who've been wanting to get involved, but also want to make sure they're doing right by other choir members. If you think you can make this commitment, please contact me at [adam@fuub.org](mailto:adam@fuub.org). I'd love to welcome you to the First U choir.

## **New Monthly Jazz Worship at First Unitarian**

If you attended last year's Jazz Sunday, then you remember how fun, spirited, and inspiring that worship service was, in large part to our featured instrumentalists, The Rad Trads. The whole staff received so much positive feedback from that day, we couldn't help but think, What if we did this more often? This year we'll be piloting a new program of monthly, Second Sunday jazz services starting in October. I will be working closely with members and friends of The Rad Trads to bring their contagious energy and talent to our worship service nine times, in the next year. This is truly thrilling for me, and I can't wait to see how injecting this kind of energy into worship every month lifts all of our spirits to new heights.

If you have any questions or ideas about music at First Unitarian Congregational Society of Brooklyn, please don't hesitate to email me at [adam@fuub.org](mailto:adam@fuub.org). I'd love to hear from any of you who might like to participate in the choir (or in other musical ways) as we start our 2015-16 program year.

In faith and music, Adam Podd

## **Worship and Music Committee**

As I write this forward-looking note about what the new church year will bring for Worship and Music, our committee is still in full swing, bringing the summer services to our congregation and visitors in a 12-week season that ends on September 6th. We have seen strong attendance numbers all summer long, as members of our congregation share their reflections with us each week. Thank you to all of our summer service leaders: Bill and Joanie Schaffer, Mi Puchon, Brandi Martin, Tom Kennedy, Julie Bero, Katie Trossello, Jessica Sasko, and Esmeralda Perales; Kristin Schall, Stephanie Gannon, Dawn Brekke and the Mother Wove Theater Group; John Lenker, Sean Fischer, James Goward, and Ari Hoogenboom, Jr. Special thanks also to the folks who help our services in the chapel run smoothly: Garnett Losak, Paul Eisemann, Rod McFarlane, Rob Petrillo and office volunteers, members of our choir, Board, and volunteer ushers, in addition to the members of our committee who pull everything together. The uniqueness of each service is a testament to the diversity and depth of our Unitarian Universalist faith and of our special community here at First U in Brooklyn.

That said, we are looking ahead to an exciting new church year back in our beautiful sanctuary, led by Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons, Meagan Henry, and Music Director Adam Podd

and choir. As a committee, our tasks are twofold. One: to support the congregation's experience of worship in its many contexts, including Small Group Ministry, holiday services, online access to sermons, expanding opportunities for spiritual expression within the congregation and community, as well as empowering the musical components of services and special events to inspire and bring us together. Two: To produce community-building musical events that help support our congregation's operations and missions financially. We will be planning two evenings for the upcoming year, and welcome your suggestions, participation, and attendance for these fundraisers! We'll keep you posted on the details.

We welcome new members, and all are welcome to attend our monthly meetings, first Tuesdays at 7:00, in the Frances White Room. Look for our table at Faith in Action Expo on Sunday, September 20th, following worship.

In fellowship,  
Cara Haft, Chair  
Robert Brackbill, Dawn Brekke, Emily Mathieu,  
Drew Peterson-Roach, Bruce Wilde

## **Weaving the Fabric of Diversity**

On Thursday, September 17th, 7:00 – 9:00PM, Weaving the Fabric of Diversity, First Unitarian's social justice and anti-racism committee, will hold its first meeting of the 2015-2016 season in the Frances White Room. Along with our popular yearly events: The Haitian fund-raiser dinner, The 'Children of Abraham' dinner with our Muslim friends and our Juneteenth celebration, we will continue to offer relevant, timely discussions after Sunday Services and in-depth Forums on important social justice and anti-racism topics.

We want to actualize some of the great suggestions from members of our First Unitarian family who participated in our June Retreat. We hope to develop several exciting projects, collaboratively, with some of the

other committees, such as a Sustainability-Science Fair; an 'Arts & Activism' Art Show; reading/discussing a book on environmental justice and participating in a 'Life skills development' project to help homeless female veterans establish stable lives.

We invite all of you to participate at any level of commitment you can. Attend one or as many meetings as you like. Join us on the second Thursday of every month, in the Frances White Room, to be part of the process of making social justice a defining and integral part of our congregational life at First U.

Contact Enza Itri ([enzaitri1@verizon.net](mailto:enzaitri1@verizon.net)) or Rita Pearl ([rpearl112@gmail.com](mailto:rpearl112@gmail.com))

## Facilities Management Committee

The Facilities Management Committee (F.M.C.) has been busy over the summer. Work is well underway on three projects which began in late July to improve the Chapel, Frances White Room, and the Sanctuary's exterior entryways. The projects are intended to maintain and preserve our historic buildings and to support Congregational life and growth initiatives.

- **Chapel:** This project includes improving the security of the Chapel's exterior doors; repairing the Chapel's entryway floor; and repairing a damaged area of the Chapel floor.
- **Chapel & Frances White Room:** This project includes repairing the two metal sliding fire doors between the Chapel and the Frances White Room; repairing and strengthening the two sets of wooden double doors between the Chapel and the Frances White Room; and repairing a wooden door between the Chapel and the Undercroft.
- **Sanctuary:** This project includes repairing and repainting damaged areas of the Sanctuary's three exterior double wooden doors, and their surrounding woodwork, which is painted to look like stone, and which has deteriorated and is rotting, allowing water penetration.

Thomas Simko Design and Restoration is the contractor on the projects. F.M.C. Chair Elaine Macken is managing the projects, which were planned in consultation with architect Andrew Wright.

The Facilities Management Committee is sponsoring a volunteer Frances White Room (F.W.R.) Clean-Up Day to prepare this much-used space for fall Congregational meetings and events. The Clean-Up Day will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2015, from 10 AM to 3 PM. Please bring work gloves and extra buckets. We hope to see many congregants at the event.

The Facilities Management Committee generally meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Please contact any F.M.C. member for more information: Elaine Macken (Chair), Liz Davis, David Thebus, Nancy Wolf, Gloria Furman, John Pritchard, and Sara Faison.

## Twenties and Thirties Group (“TnT”)

Helping our Unitarian Universalist congregations become spiritual homes for all generations is an essential priority for our faith. Brooklyn is a vibrant young borough that reflects in our congregation. First Unitarian has a large and growing group of young adults in their twenties and thirties, in fact we have one of the largest populations of young congregants in the country!

As a member of the Twenties and Thirties (TnT) community there are

many ways to get involved. Young adults participate in many of the congregation's daily operations, sitting on and often heading many committees.

Along with spontaneous city wide adventures, the TnT's meet monthly for brunch, during the week for Pastoral Pints at a local bar or pub and also have a gathering with our senior minister, Rev. Ana, where we have relaxed and relevant spiritual discussions. Additionally, there are semi-annual retreats that bring young

adults from around the Metro NYC area together.

Together we look “forward” to new adventures involving social activism, community development and spiritual and religious understanding. The young adult community at First U has been growing steadily over the past years and we are excited to see it continue to do so this year!

Katie Trossello, On behalf of the “TnT's”



## **Volunteer to be an Usher or Greeter this Fall**

Being an Usher or Greeter on Sunday morning is a great way to meet people and be of service to our congregation. All that's required is a warm smile and the ability to arrive by 10:30AM. We ask that every able member of the congregation volunteer at least once each year. Contact Judy Boals [judy@judyboals.com](mailto:judy@judyboals.com) and leave your phone number. An on-line registration link will be available soon.

## **Calling All Artists!**

We want to add your visual art to our worship experience. Rev. Ana is planning a sermon series on the Seven Days of Creation. The first sermon is planned for October 11th. If you have a painting, photograph, sculpture or any other piece of visual art that you believe enhances this theme, we would love to display it. Contact Garnett Losak or Brandi Martin ([brandimartin.bkny@gmail.com](mailto:brandimartin.bkny@gmail.com)) for more information ([garnett@fuub.org](mailto:garnett@fuub.org)).

## **Sunday Worship Sanctuary Flowers**

Sunday flowers from September 13th through June 12th are arranged by the Flower Committee. If you would like to sponsor the flowers for an upcoming Sunday Service, please contact Robert Petrillo at 718-624-5466, x108 or email [dcs@fuub.org](mailto:dcs@fuub.org) with your choice of date(s). Flowers can be sponsored (\$50) for numerous reasons including the memory of a loved one, congratulations for a special event, etc. Your name and dedication will be printed in that week's Order of Service. After the service is over you are welcome to take the flowers home (please leave the vase).

## **Soup and Sandwiches**

Our Sunday Soup and Sandwich program provides a delicious, healthy meal at a reasonable cost and helps pay for the coffee and tea expense after worship. If you are able to make soup or pick up sandwich supplies as well as help to staff the table, please contact Garnett Losak ([garnett@fuub.org](mailto:garnett@fuub.org)). Your expenses will be reimbursed from the proceeds that day. This is a great way to meet people and be a service to the congregation.

# **Faith in Action Expo**

## **September 20th following Worship**

**Sign-up for Small Group Ministries, Dinner Groups,  
learn about joining the choir, serving our congregation as an  
Usher or Greeter and so much more.**

**All are Welcome! For more information contact: Garnett Losak  
([garnett@fuub.org](mailto:garnett@fuub.org))**

## Worship Schedule - Fall 2015

September 13: In-Gathering, Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons  
Preaching, Multi-Generational

September 20: Faith in Action Expo, Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons  
Preaching, Religious Education for children/youth begins

September 27: Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching

October 4: Meagan Henry Preaching

October 11: Jazz Service, Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching  
*Creation Series Day 1: Light and Dark*

October 18: Sabbath Sunday, Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching

October 25: Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching, Halloween Party

November 1: Youth-Led Worship

November 8: Jazz Service, Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching  
*Creation Series Day 2: Water and Sky*

November 15: New Member Sunday,  
Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching

November 22: Hunger Communion,  
Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Preaching

November 29: Guest Preacher, TBA

*This schedule is subject to change. Please look for updates in the weekly e-news, on Facebook, and the website.*

### Water Ceremony September 13th

Share a bit of your summer during our In-Gathering return to the Sanctuary on September 13th. Did you take a trip, visit friends or family, spend a day in Prospect Park? Bring a few tablespoons of water representing your summer wanderings to fill our common bowl. If you forgot water, take a little from the tap and bless it with your memories. Rev. Ana will preach with music from the choir and section leaders led by Adam Podd and a story from Meagan Henry. Children and families are especially welcome that day.

## FIRST UNITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY BROOKLYN

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

### MISSION & COVENANT

We strive to be an embracing and diverse community of all ages whose members nurture, strengthen, and challenge each other to grow. We gather to celebrate our shared Unitarian Universalist values while affirming our individual beliefs. A spirit of hope and possibility inspires us to fulfill our responsibility to the larger society by promoting justice and peace. Because the congregation is meaningful in our lives and we freely choose to be here, we commit our talents and resources to live this mission.

**OFFICE** The Lathrop House  
48 Monroe Place, Brooklyn, NY 11201

HOURS Mon–Thurs, 9:30AM–4:00PM

PHONE/FAX 718-624-5466/718-797-2916

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### CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons Senior Minister

Meagan Henry Director of Education Ministries

Robert F. Petrillo Dir. Congregational Services

Adam Podd Music Director

Garnett Losak Dir. Congregational Life

Paul Eisemann Acting Sexton

Carl Davis Custodian

Rebecca Chin Youth Ministry Coordinator

Elizabeth Deterville Nursery Coordinator

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