

FIRST UNITARIAN  
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY  
**BROOKLYN**  
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

## Transforming Lives

**Tom Check**

(Member since December 10, 1989)



My wife Nancy Witherell and I have been members of First Unitarian for 27 years, since our son Dan was 10 years old and wanted to learn more about God. We asked friends about their churches, made a list to visit, and in our first stop, here at First Unitarian, found what we were looking for – a welcoming community grounded in positive spirituality and a responsible search for truth. All three of us became active in the congregation, the RE program was central to Dan, and our friendships here are among our most important. Dan and his wife and their two young children are now active in All Souls Unitarian in Washington DC, and Nancy and I remain active here in Brooklyn.

Over the years, I've been on the Board of Trustees and many committees, and am honored to be a Deacon. Now I'm on the committee that's guiding our Congregation in a process, anchored in the Cottage Meetings that Garnett referred to and described in the Order of Service, to discern whether and how First U should offer sanctuary to immigrants and refugees.

First U brings it all together for me: a community of caring people, the pursuit of spirituality and higher values, congregational decision-making based on respect for each other and accepting different perspectives, the call to engage responsibly in our society and our planet, embracing and acting on UU principles that are fundamentally human principles. I'm blessed with one life to live, and at First Unitarian, life is fuller for me and I am called to make it happier for others.

First Unitarian has changed my life. Working together, we can change the world.

Sept 24, 2017